

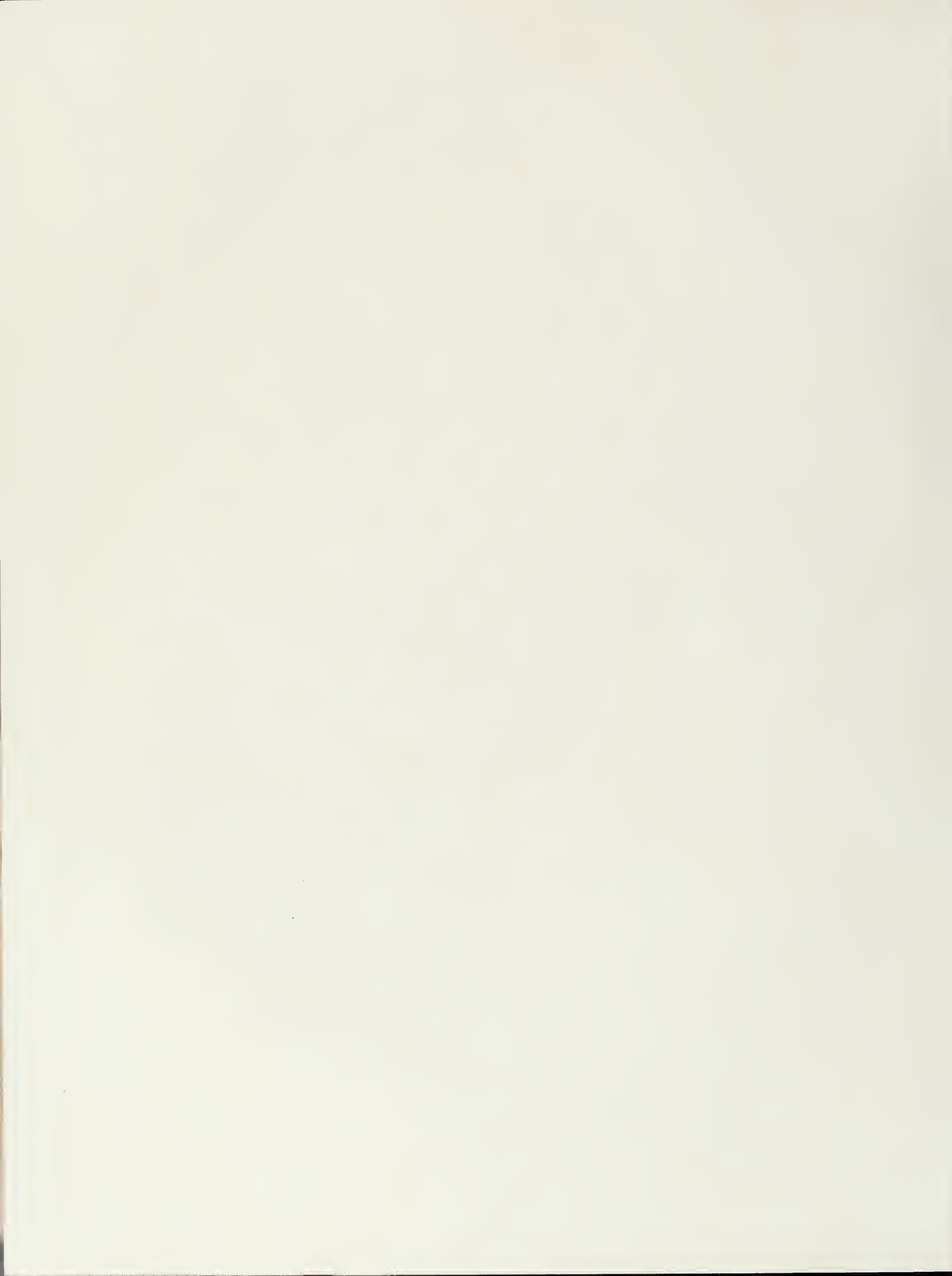
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE)
503D INFANTRY REGIMENT
"THE ROCK"
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE
COMBAT TEAM



OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM VII
2007 - 2008







**DEDICATED TO THE FALLEN
SKY SOLDIERS OF
2D BATTALION AIRBORNE,
503RD INFANTRY**

**PFC TIMOTHY R. VIMOTO
SPC CHRISTOPHER S. HONAKER
PFC JOSEPH A. MIRACLE
PFC JUAN S. RESTREPO
1LT BENJAMIN J. HALL
SFC MATTHEW D. BLASKOWSKI
SSG LARRY I. ROUGLE
SGT JOSHUA C. BRENNAN
SPC HUGO V. MENDOZA
CPT MATTHEW C. FERRERA
SGT JEFFREY S. MERSMAN
CPL SEAN K. LANGEVIN
CPL LESTER G. ROQUE
SPC JOSEPH M. LANCOUR
SFC MATTHEW R. KAHLER
1LT JONATHAN P. BROSTROM
SGT ISRAEL GARCIA
CPL JONATHAN R. AYERS
CPL JASON M. BOGAR
CPL JASON D. HOVATER
CPL MATTHEW B. PHILLIPS
CPL PRUITT A. RAINEY
CPL GUNNER W. ZWILLING
SPC SERGIO S. ABAD**

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To our ROCK Paratroopers and Families -

The ROCK is a very unique organization with an unmatched history and reputation for excellence. Uniquely, The ROCK has always been a disciplined, proficient, low maintenance organization with integrity and credibility beyond reproach that moves quickly, with limited information, and accomplishes the intent – always; The ROCK figures out “how to” v. “why not to” while spending 80% of calories employing assets and 20% gathering assets. Since it’s activation during World War II, through service in Vietnam, Iraq, and multiple tours in Afghanistan, The ROCK has found itself at the cutting edge of battle. Paratroopers of The ROCK have a legacy of serving honorably and heroically in combat and honorably and proficiently in garrison/training.

Between OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM VI (2005-6) and OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM VIII (2007-8), The ROCK conducted sixteen weeks of scenario driven multi-echelon collective training. Some said we trained too much and hard – we believed that to be impossible when preparing Paratroopers for combat. We trained paratroopers and leaders, we set standards and expectations high, and when deployed we confidently trusted and supported our leaders. ROCK Paratroopers, based on remote platoon bases, exceeded all expectations in the rugged, austere, contested terrain of the Hindu Kush Mountains in Kunar and Nuristan Provinces, Afghanistan adjacent to Pakistan.

Paratroopers fought for, gained, and maintained freedom of movement throughout AO ROCK. The fight in AO ROCK was constant, brutal, and varied. Combat went from arms length to max effective range of all systems. The ROCK conducted over 9,500 patrols, was in contact with the enemy over 1,100 times, fired over 5,400 indirect fire missions and 36,500 rounds of ammunition, and employed over 3,800 aerial deliveries. As one of the few units in the Army to maximize all tools – The ROCK also fired 108 TOWs and 23 Javelins. In an effort to achieve lasting effects, ROCK Paratroopers demonstrated proficiency and creativity when integrating and synchronizing weapons and surveillance systems to target the enemy. Heroism was the norm – two Paratroopers were nominated for the Medal of Honor, four were nominated for the Distinguished Service Cross, seven were awarded Silver Star Medals while ten are pending, over 90 Bronze Star Medals for Valor were awarded – 400 Bronze Star Medals for Service will be awarded, and nearly 300 Army Commendation Medals for Valor were awarded. Task Force ROCK will be submitted for a Presidential Unit Citation and a Valorous Unit Citation.

ROCK Paratroopers brought confidence, competence, and security to Kunar Province. The ROCK proactively partnered with and trained many types of Afghan National Security Forces, mentored district and province government officials, and built the infrastructure – roads, bridges, schools, clinics, power generation, water pipes etc. – while working with incredible partners that included US Army enablers, US Marine ETTs, US Navy-led Province Reconstruction Teams, US Air Force JTACs and delivery systems, and many interagency personnel.

ROCK efforts came at a high cost to individuals and to families. Tragically, we lost 26 incredible young men that are remembered in our hearts and memorialized in this book. We had 143 Task Force members wounded. Families sacrificed 15 months together and supported, worried, and prayed from afar.

We have tremendous respect for the leaders, Paratroopers, and families of The ROCK. We were in a tough sustained fight in austere conditions; we fought and won and returned as a unit – with honor. As is our theme – once ROCK always ROCK, always obligated and always responsible. We are hopeful all Paratroopers look at the time spent in the ROCK and in AO ROCK as an investment from which to forever draw strength and perspective. Paratroopers in The ROCK should take pride in a job well done as ALL are combat tested Paratroopers that selflessly brought peace and prosperity to a remote corner of world. As individuals, units, and families you’ve done things few would attempt and fewer could accomplish – there are none better.

We were privileged to lead you in training and in combat – it was an awesome privilege. We appreciate all you do and all you stand for.

The ROCK!

Bradley K. Meyers
Command Sergeant Major
ROCK 7

William B. Ostlund
Lieutenant Colonel, Infantry
ROCK 6

BATTALION COMMANDER

"ROCK 6"



LIEUTENANT COLONEL WILLIAM B. OSTLUND

LTC Bill Ostlund was born on July 9, 1965, in Park Rapids, Minnesota. He enlisted in the United States Army in 1983 and served in the 1st Battalion, 75th Rangers. In 1987, as a Staff Sergeant, he transitioned to the Nebraska National Guard Long Range Surveillance Detachment and simultaneously began his commissioning process at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

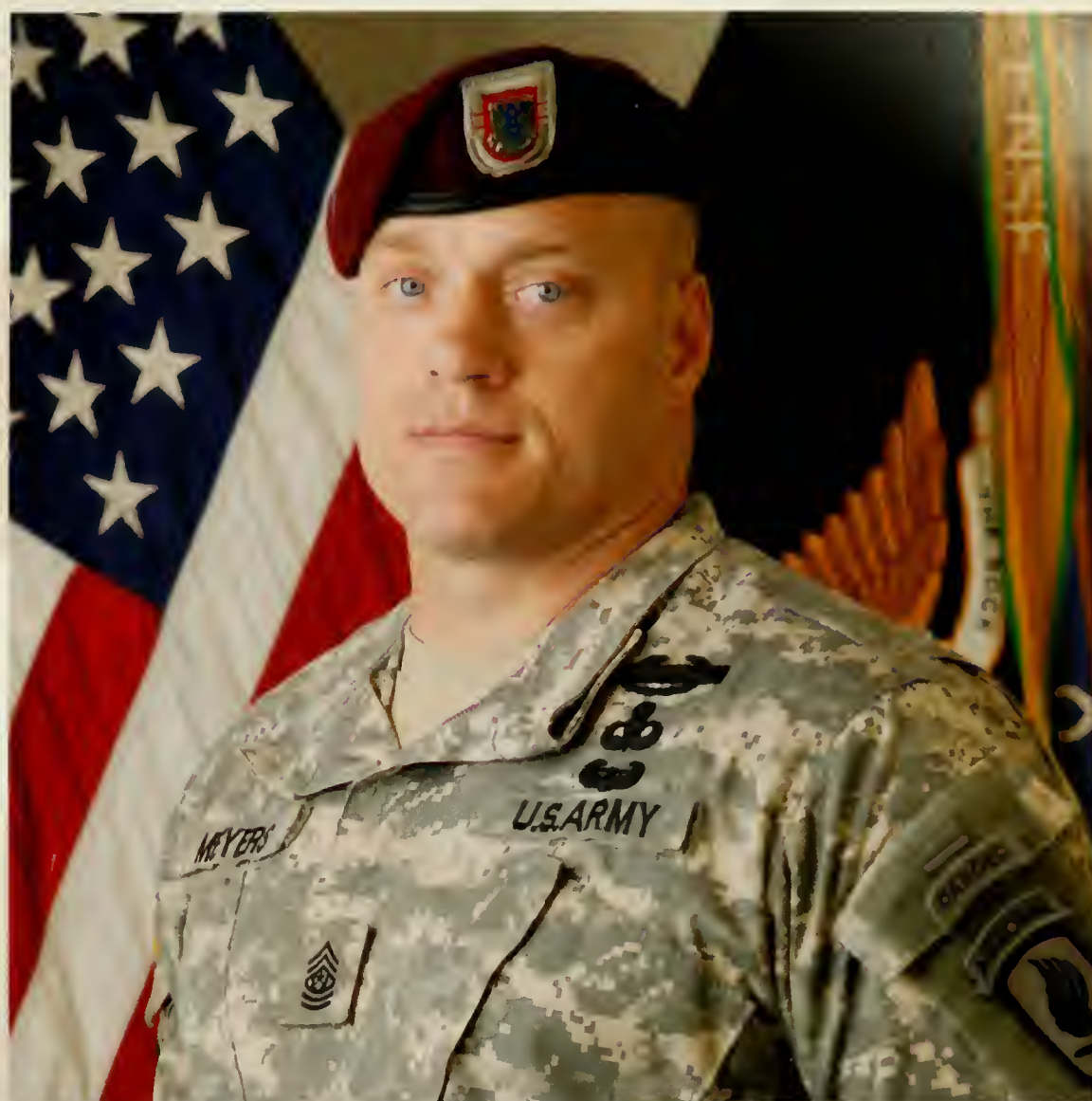
Since commissioning LTC Ostlund served in the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division in the Republic of Korea, the United States Military Academy – Social Sciences Department, SETAF and the 173rd Airborne Brigade, and as the US Strategic Command's Chief, EUCOM Support Section and Combating Weapons of Mass Destruction Planner. He served as the Commander, 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry (Airborne), 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team from June 2006, through OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM VIII, to September 2008.

LTC Ostlund's military education includes the United States Army Command and General Staff Officers Course and the Joint and Combined Warfighting School. He holds a Bachelors degree in Political Science from the University of Nebraska at Omaha and a Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy in International Relations from Tufts University.

He and his wife, Heather, have three sons – Cody, Colton, and Brenget.

BATTALION COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

"ROCK 7"



COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR BRADLEY K. MEYERS

CSM Bradley K. Meyers was born on April 30, 1962, in Lafayette, Indiana. He enlisted in the United States Army in 1984 and graduated from Basic Training, AIT and Airborne School at Fort Benning, Georgia.

Since enlisting he served in the 82nd Airborne Division, 6th Infantry Division (Light), 1-75th Ranger Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, and the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team.

CSM Meyers deployed to the Sinai in support of the Multi-National Forces and Observers Mission and in support of Operations Restore/ Uphold Democracy in Haiti, Operation Enduring Freedom 2001, 2002, and 2005 in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003.

CSM Meyers was selected for promotion to Sergeant Major and attended the US Army Sergeant's Major Academy in 2003. He was appointed to Command Sergeant Major in October 2005 with a date of rank of 1 August 2003 and Graduated USASMA Class 54.

He is married with two children and is a devoted North Carolina Tar Heels, Miami Dolphins, and Dale Earnhardt, jr fan.

MAJOR BRIAN BECKNO

"ROCK 5"



MAJ Brian T. Beckno was born on June 10, 1971 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He graduated with a BS in Biology from John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio and was commissioned as an Infantry Second Lieutenant from the university's Army ROTC program in May 1994.

Since commissioning, MAJ Beckno served in various leadership and staff positions the 2nd Infantry Division (Mechanized) in Korea, 10th Mountain Division (Light), and the Ranger Training Brigade. MAJ Beckno's company commands include HHC and Charlie Company in 1st Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade (Rakkasans) in the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) during both OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM I and OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM I. Additionally, MAJ Beckno commanded The Sabalauski Air Assault School and later served as the Aide de Camp to the Commanding General of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). Upon completion of the United States Army Command and General Staff College in June 2006, MAJ Beckno was assigned to the United States Army Southern European Task Force (Airborne), and in February 2007 was assigned as the Executive Officer of 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 503rd Infantry - The ROCK, 173^d Airborne Brigade Combat Team where he served throughout the unit's deployment to OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM VIII, Afghanistan.

MAJ Beckno's advanced education also includes a Masters Degree in Information Operations - Master of Military Arts and Science from the United States Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

MAJOR SCOTT HIMES

"ROCK 3"

MAJ Scott Himes was born on 28 September, 1967, in the suburbs of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He received his commission in 1992 as a second lieutenant and was assigned as a tank platoon leader and armored scout platoon leader in 2nd Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division at FT Carson, Colorado.

In 1 May 1999, following a two year break in service, MAJ Himes was assigned to FT Benning, GA where he served in The Ranger Training Brigade as an assistant operation officer. He then assumed command of Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 507th Infantry Regiment (United States Army Airborne School). On 20 June 2001, MAJ Himes was assigned to FT Campbell, KY. He served as a BN staff officer and company commander in 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). MAJ Himes deployed his company in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom I, and was later selected as the aide de camp to the commanding general of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). On 5 July 2006 MAJ Himes was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry (Airborne), 173^d Airborne Brigade Combat Team. He served as the battalion executive officer from July 2006 to January 2007 and as the battalion operations officer from January 2007 through Operation Enduring Freedom VIII, to September 2008.

MAJ Himes is a graduate of the United States Army Command and General Staff Officers Course at FT Leavenworth, KS. He earned a BS in civil engineering from The Pennsylvania State Univ and a M S in education from Kansas State Univ.



SERGEANT MAJOR JEFFERY KOENIG

"ROCK 3 7"



Sergeant Major Jeff Koenig entered the United States Army on 10 September 1987 at the age of 17. After completion of One Station Unit Training for Infantry and the Basic Airborne Course at Fort Benning, Georgia, he was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division. Upon arrival, he was automatically drawn to the prestige of the 173^d Airborne Brigade, as a majority of the senior NCOs in his Battalion were Vietnam veterans and alumni of the Sky Soldiers. At that time, to be a member of the 173^d was impossible, due to the Brigade's deactivation in 1972.

SGM Koenig served in various positions in the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, the Jungle Warfare Center at Fort Sherman, Panama, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) at Fort Drum, New York, 78th Division (Training Support) at Fort Drum, New York and Fort Dix, New Jersey. Before being assigned to THE ROCK, he was a student at the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy.

The highlight of SGM Koenig's military career has been the honor and privilege of being a Sky Soldier and member of THE ROCK. Currently, he is the Operations Sergeant Major for TASK FORCE ROCK.

SGM Koenig is grateful to have been awarded the Expert Infantryman Badge, Combat Infantryman Badge (2nd Award), the Master Parachutist Badge, the Air Assault Badge, and the Ranger Tab.

SGM Koenig has been happily married to his wife Jennifer since 1991. They have two boys, Ryan (age 14), and Evan (age 4).

ROCK MISSION

TASK FORCE ROCK CONDUCTS COMBAT OPERATIONS IN SUPPORT OF FOREIGN INTERNAL DEFENSE TO DEFEAT ANTI-AFGHAN FORCES IN ORDER TO ENABLE AFGHAN NATIONAL SECURITY FORCES AND LEGITIMATE AFGHAN INSTITUTIONS THE ABILITY TO PROVIDE SECURITY AND STABILITY TO THE AFGHAN POPULATION.

GRAFENWOEHR TRAIN-UP



GRAFENWOEHR TRAIN-UP



DEPLOYMENT CEREMONY



TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY - 05 JUNE 2007



HEADQUARTER'S HEADQUARTER'S COMPANY



COMPANY COMMANDER
CPT LEONARDO FLOR



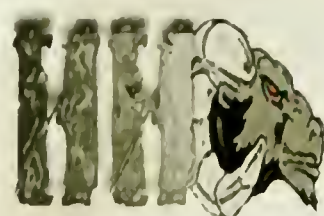
COMPANY FIRST SERGEANT
1SG SCOTT BRZAK



COMPANY FIRST SERGEANT
1SG MITCHELL RUCKER



BLACKSHEEP



1. **SPC MARTIN**
Able Main conducting a night fire

2. **MHC MONTAGS**
Able Section conducting a fire mission during Rock Avalanche

3. **MAJOR BECKNO**,
Rock Santa, and Major Himes.

4. **SSG CAREY** enjoying
a smoke

5. **SGT GARCIA** goes
for two points (he misses too!)

6. **MORTARS**
SGT MARTIN, SPC RANKIN,
SPC PERKINS & PFC YOST

7. **Major Beckno**

8. **SPC FLEMING**,
Bella Mortars

9. **CAPTAIN DEAN'S**
new friend



BLACKSHEEP



PFC AHASAY, COLIN
PFC ALCALA, STEVEN
PFC ALLEN, KYLE
MSG ANDERSON, CHAD



PFC ARNONE, ALEX
PFC BAUER, OTTO
PFC BEAM, DONALD
PV2 BELL, JOSEPH



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SPC BETTEN, JOHNATHAN
PFC BLANKINSHIP, ROBERT
SGT BOONE, DANIEL
SPC BROWN, LAMART



PV2 BRUSASCHETTI,
ANTHONY
SGT BURSE, WILLIAM
SSG CAREY, JEREMY
2LT CASEY, JOSEPH



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SGT CASSEUS, PATRICK
SGT CHEEK, TANNER
SSG CHRISTEN, JAMES
SGT CLINARD, JOHN





BLACKSHEEP



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PFC CODDINGTON, CHRIS
SFC CODMAN, HARRY
2LT COLLEY, MATTHEW
SGT COTE, EDWARD

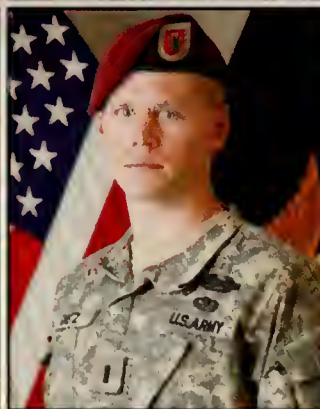


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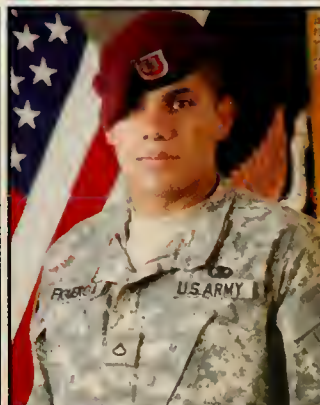
PFC CRAWFORD, PAUL
PFC TYRELL, CUERRIER
SGT CZARNIK, JEREMY
PV2 DAVIS, SEAN



SGT DAVISON, LEVI
PFC DAWSON, AARON
CPT DEAN, JOEL
SPC DEFEVERS, BLAKE



SSG DIAZ DE LEON,
MARTIN
SGT DIAZROSADO, ALEXIS
CPT DIETZ, IAN
SGT EATON, JEREMY



SFC EUBANKS, RODNEY
SGT EVANS, MACK
PFC FIGUEROA, ROBERT
SPC FISK, THOMAS



BLACKSHEEP



PV2 FLAUTT, SAMUEL
PFC FLEMING, KYLE
PFC FOLSOM, SHAWN
SSG FOOTE, IAN

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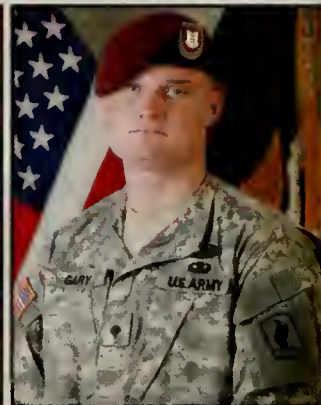


PV2 FRALEIGH, JASON
SPC FRANCIS, CALIPHE
SPC FRANK, JAMES
1LT FRANKLIN, ALEXI



PFC GADELL, TYSON
SGT GANTZ, BRADLEY
SGT GARCIA, FRANCISCO
SGT GARY, CODY

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SPC GAU, IRWIN
1LT GOINES, JEFFREY
PFC GOMEZ, JUAN
SGT GONZALEZ, JOHN



SSG GRABSKI, MICHAEL
SPC GREEN, BENJAMIN
SGT GRIFFIS, JOHN
SGT GRIGGS, STEPHEN



No
Photo
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BLACKSHEEP



SSG GRITMAN, ALLEN
SGT GROBE, ROBERT
PV2 GROSS, CHRISTOPHER
SGT GROSS, DONALD



SFC GUERRERO, ANDREW
SGT GUIDRY, JONATHAN
SPC HAHN, CORBIN
PV2 HARRIS, DAVID



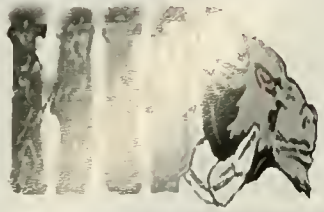
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SGT HEMBRICK, OLIVER
SGT HERNANDEZ,
JONATHAN
1LT HERNANDEZ, KAREEM



PFC HEWITT, WILLIAM
PVT HILLARD, STEVEN
SFC HINOJOSA, EDWARD
SPC HJELMSTAD, JESSE



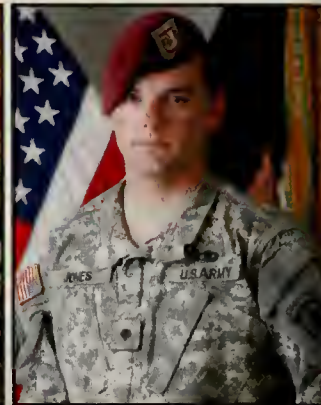
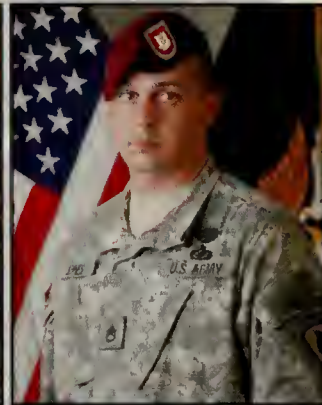
PFC HODGES, DAK
SGT HOFFMAN, PATRICK
SGT HORNER, JAMEY
SFC HORVAL, SEAN



BLACKSHEEP



CPT JARROW, TATE
PV2 JONES, BRENTON
SFC JONES, DALLAS
SGT JONES, KRIS



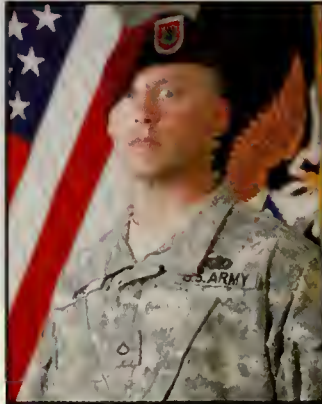
SGT JORDAHL, ALEX
PFC JOSEPH, JARED
PV2 JOSEPH, MICAH
PV2 KADERLI, JONATHAN



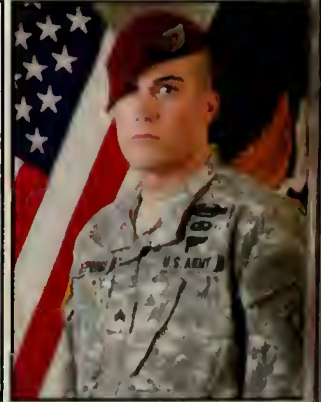
SGT KARUZA, JOHN
1LT KEEN, JONATHAN
SGT KEITH, CHRISTOPHER
SPC KENNEDY, JEREMY



PFC KING, OLIVER
CPT KIRKPATRICK, ALBERT
SGT KYLER, RONALD
PV2 LACY, JULIUS



SFC LAKE, MCBEAN
CPT LAKNER, JEFFREY
PFC LEFAVE, ALEXANDER
SGT LEFORCE, JEFF





BLACKSHEEP

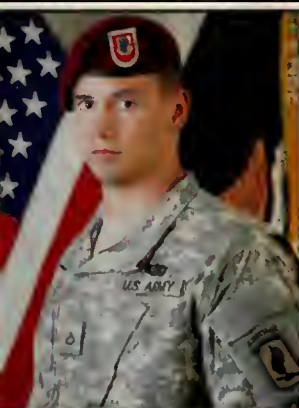


SGT LEMON, ROBERT
PFC LEON-GARCIA, ERICK
SFC LEVY, JASON
PFC LEWIS, RONALD



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SGT LINGIER, RICHARD
SPC LINVILLE, ANDREW
SPC LISKE, JAY
SFC LITTLE, DARRIS



No
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PFC LIVESAY, ZAC
PV2 LOPEZ, DAVID
SSG LOZA, JUAN
CPT MANTLE, DUANE



SSG MARRA, DUSTIN
PV2 MARTIN, CHARLES
SGT MARTIN, STEVEN
PFC MARTINEZ, JAYSON



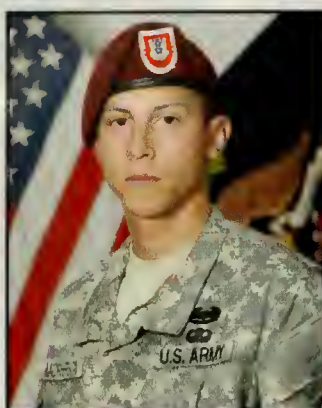
SSG MATTHEWS, JOHN
SPC MAYE, DARREN
SSG MCCULLERS, RASHEEN
PV2 MCNEECE, WILLIAM



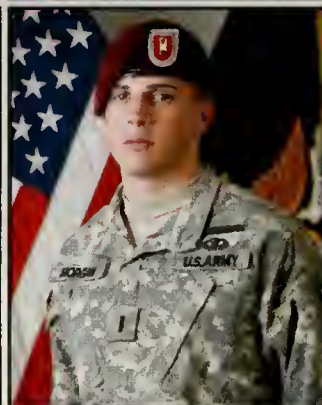
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PV2 MCPHERSON, IAN
SPC MEES, JACOB
SSG MILLER, SAMUEL
SGT MOORE, PATRICK



SFC MOORE, PHILLIP
PFC MOORHOUSE,
RICHARD
1LT MORGAN, WAYNE
2LT MURAWSKI, MATTHEW



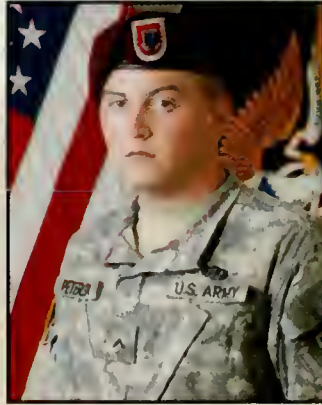
SSG NESTELL, MICHAEL
SSG NEWCOMB, WILLIAM
SGT NEWMYER, BRET
SSG ORTIZ, MICHAEL



SSG PALMER, DERRICK
SFC PASION, JAY
SFC PERDUE, JASON
PVT PERKINS, JOSH



PV2 PETERSON, KYLE
SSG PIERCE, DAVID
SPC PIMENTEL, LUIS
1LT PLOSA, MATTHEW



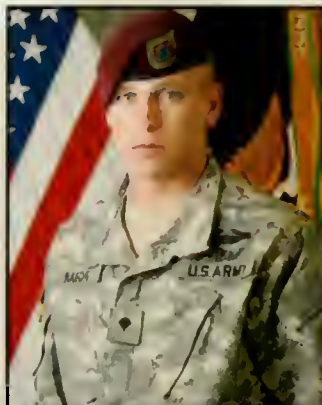


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SPC PORRELLO, JAMES
CPT PRY, BENJAMIN
SGT QUINTANA, THOMAS
SPC RAEON, MITCHELL



CPT RAMOS, CARLOS
PV2 RANKIN, CODY
SGT REED, ALLEN
SGT REILLY, NATHAN

No
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No
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No
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SPC REYNOLDS, VERNON
CPT RICHARD, JED
SSG RIZZO, ROCKY
PV2 ROBERTS, JACOB



No
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SPC ROBLES, ARTURO
SPC RODRIGUEZ,
BARNABAZ
SSG RODRIGUEZ, PHILLIP
SGT ROGERS, ADAM



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PFC ROGERS, JUSTIN
SSG SANCHEZ, ANTONIO
SGT SANCHEZ, BENJAMIN
SGT SANDIFER, ROBERTO



BLACKSHEEP



MAJ SCHNARR, DAVID
PFC SCHWARZ, RYAN
PFC SCOTT, PATRICK
PV2 SEAGRAVES,
JONATHON

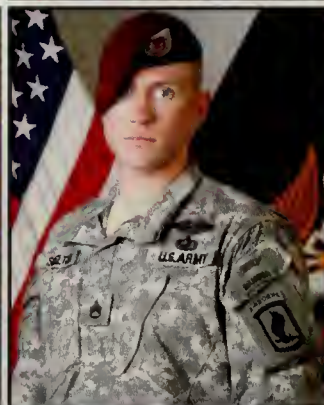


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SGT SEIFERT, JAMES
SPC SENNA, STEPHEN
SGT SESMA, FABIAN
SGT SETTLEMIRE, DAVID



SPC SHARP, JOSHUA
SPC SHELKE, NIKHIL
SSG SHELTON,
CHRISTOPHER
SGT SHIVE, SCOTT



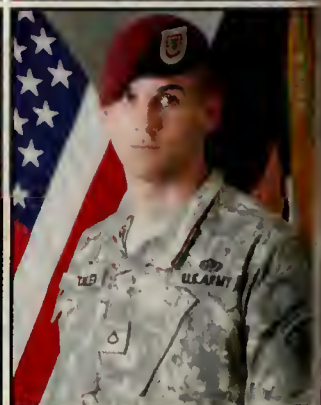
PFC SIMMONS, KEVIN
SGT SLOMIAK, JASON
SSG SNIPES, MICHAEL
SGT STAMPER, ANTHONY



1LT STEGER, NATHAN
SGT STRAUCH, DANIEL
CPT SWAIMS, CHAD
PV2 TALLEY, DREW



No
Photo
Available





BLACKSHEEP



No
Photo
Available



2LT TATO, JOHN
PV2 TAULBEE, WILLIAM
SSG TAYLOR, SETH
SPC TELLEZ, DIRIANGEN

No
Photo
Available



SFC TERRY, WILLIAM
SSG THOMAS, BRANDON
CPT TOMPKINS, WALTER
PFC TORREY, ROBERT



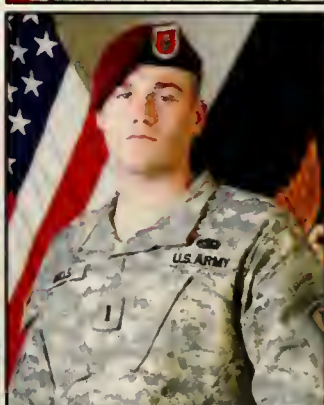
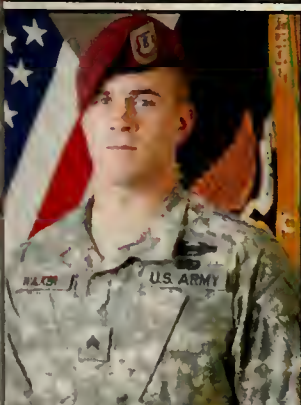
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Available



SSG UPP, CHRISTOPHER
PFC URBANEK, DANE
SGT VALCIN, JOEL
CPT VALDEZ, JEAN



SGT VALLES, RAMON
CPT VANETTEN, JOSHUA
PV2 VIDALES, BENJAMIN
SSG VIPOND, JASON



SGT WALKER, JOSEPH
PFC WEBSTER, MATTHEW
CPT WELLS, JOSEPH
PFC WEST, JOE



BLACKSHEEP



2LT WHITE, WILLIAM
PFC WILLIAMS, JORDAN
PFC WILLIAMS, JUSTIN
CPT WILSON, ROBERT



No
Photo
Available

PFC WINLAND, JAMES
SGT WISE, ALEXANDER
SGT WOLERT, MICHAEL
SPC WOLFE, MICHAEL

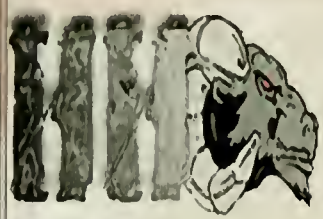


PV2 YOST, WESLEY
SGT YOUNG, BRANDON
PVT YOUNG, SEAN
SFC ZEIDLER, MICHAEL



PFC ASHBURN, NATHAN
2LT SELLERS, BRANDON





BLACKSHEEP



1. ROCK 6 -
LTC Ostlund.
2. LION 6 AND
SMA Preston.
3. CPT PICKLER
Commanders.
4. CSM MEYERS

5. ROCK 7 -
CSM Meyers

6. LT MURAWSKI,
SSG Upp, SPC Arnone,
SPC Scott, and SPC Dumas

7. ROCK 6 WITH
local children.

8. CPT PICKLER &
CSM Meyers.

9. ROCK 6, LION 6
Lion 7 and Rock 7



BLACKSHEEP



1. SGT MARTIN, SPC Rankin HHC Mortars Able Main.
2.SFC BARBARETE

3. ROCK 6 & ROCK 7

4. CAPTAIN PICKLER & CSM Meyers

5.HHC MORTARS conducting a night fire at Korengal Outpost.

6. MAJOR HIMES IN A strategic game of solitaire.

7. ONE OF MANY ROUNDS fired in support of TIC

8. ROCK HEALTH Advisor

9. CPT SWAIMS AND PFC Peterson pose for a picture

10. SPC CODDINGTON

11. HHC MORTARS AT Korengal Outpost; PFC Abad, SGT Wollert, SSG Rizzo, SGT LeForge, SFC Levy, and PFC Beam.

12. LOOKING FOR THE Enemy.

13. PFC ABAD AND PFC Beam. Korengal Mortars.

14. ROCK DOCS

15. CPT DEAN AND SSG Ortiz before departing for a MEDCAP

16.HHC MORTARS, Korengal Mortars.

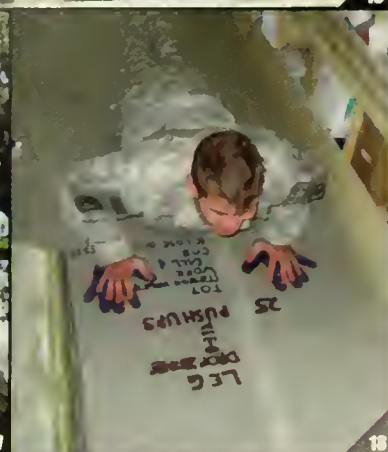
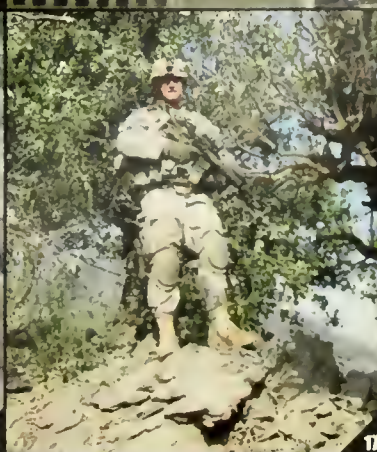
17.ROCK 6

18. SGT WISE TRIES out the new Rock Medic Leg DZ





BLACKSHEEP





BLACKSHEEP



1. CHRISTMAS DINNER

LTC Ostlund, CSM Meyers, and SSG Carey

2. SANTA @ BLESSING

3. SFC PERDUE AND

PFC Robles managing fires at BN fire desk.

4. LTC OSTLUND AND

LT Moad.

5. SGT STICHTER &

PFC Dunn take a quick break during Korengal patrol.

6. SSG NESTELL ON

patrol in Korengal Valley.

7. CAPTAIN NELSON

getting ready for briefing.

8. DAY SHIFT IN THE

TOC, SFC Zeilder, SSG Newcomb, and SPC Frank.

9. CSM MEYERS

10. MAJOR BECKNO &

LT Thurman.

11. THUNDER 8 SQUAD AT

Able Main

12. SFC GUERRERO

13. LTC OSTLUND &

SGM Koenig.

14. SSG CAREY, SGT

Gary and CSM Meyers

15. ROCK 6 & ROCK 7

Destined Strike

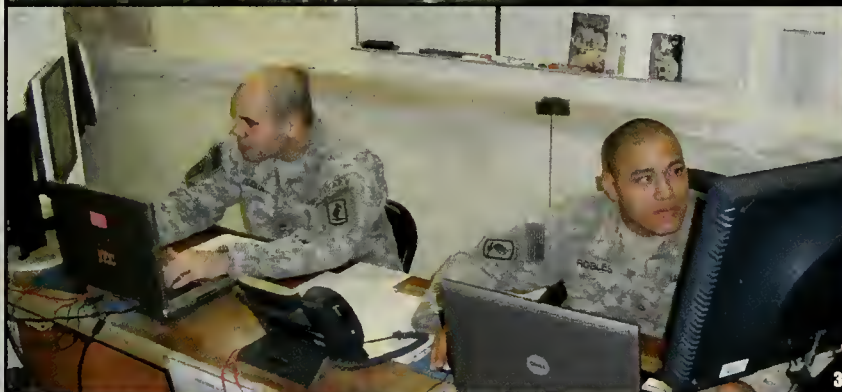
16. F15 173rdABN

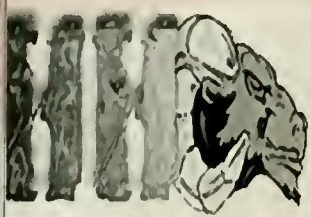
17. ROCK AIR TEAM

SSG Christen and SPC Sharp.

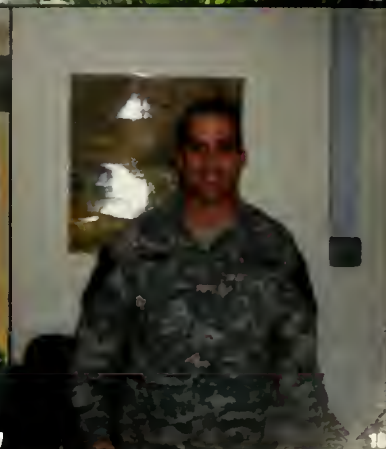
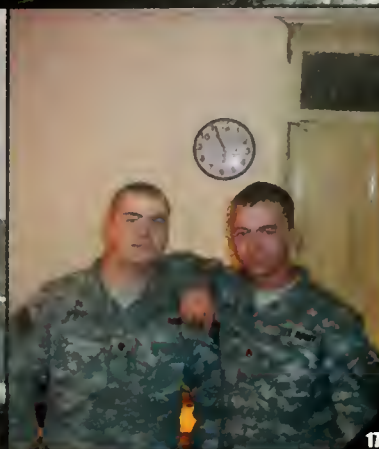
18. MAJOR HIMES

getting ready for morning coffee.





BLACKSHEEP





BLACKSHEEP



1. SPC PERKINS
receiving an IV from SPC Williams
during RFR.

2. NIGHT FIRING ON
120mm

3. SSG UPP, SPC DUMAS
SPC Arnone, and SPC Scott after
Fire Mission.

4. SGT MARTIN AND
PSSG Thomas after a WP fire
mission.

5. PFC ANASAY AFTER
a fire mission.

6. SGT MARTIN AND
SSG Thomas test firing AT-4's

7. SGT MARTIN FIRES
a White Phosphorus round onto
enemy targets at Able Main.

8. SSG UPP, HHC
Mortars.

9. SSG THOMAS AND SPC
Rankin preparing to test fire AT-4's

10. SSG Thomas

11. ABLE MAIN MORTARS
fire into enemy targets during
Operation Rock Avalanche.

12. SSG RIZZO
Promoting SPC Yost.

13. SPC WILLIAMS
cleaning the 120mm after a
thunderstorm.

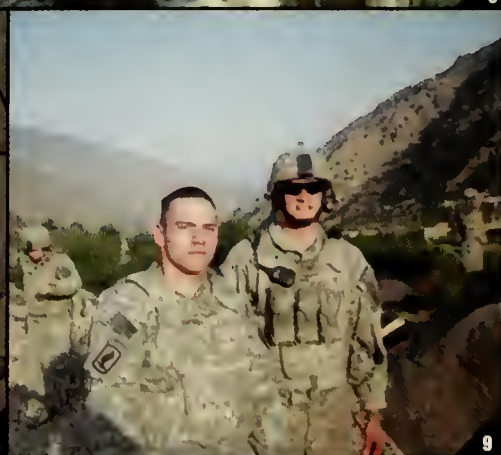
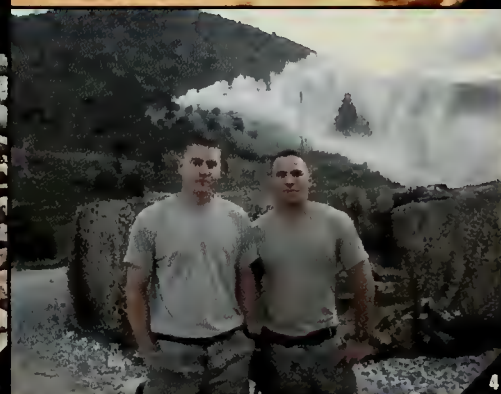
14. SPC PERKINS
gunning the 120mm

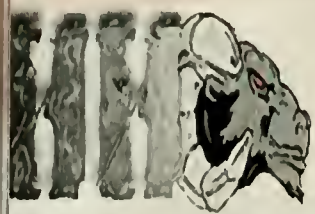
15. SPC SCOTT AND SPC
Arnone, Thanksgiving

16. SPC RANKIN
watches a mortar round being fired
at Able Main.

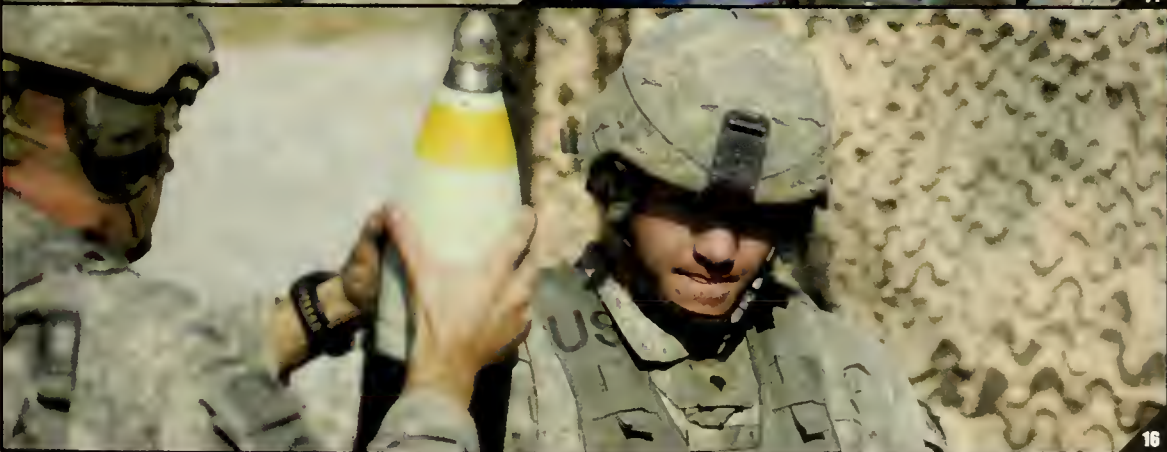
17. SPC FISK & SPC
Yost after a fire mission at Bella
Outpost.

18. SPC WILLIAMS
posing after a fire mission.





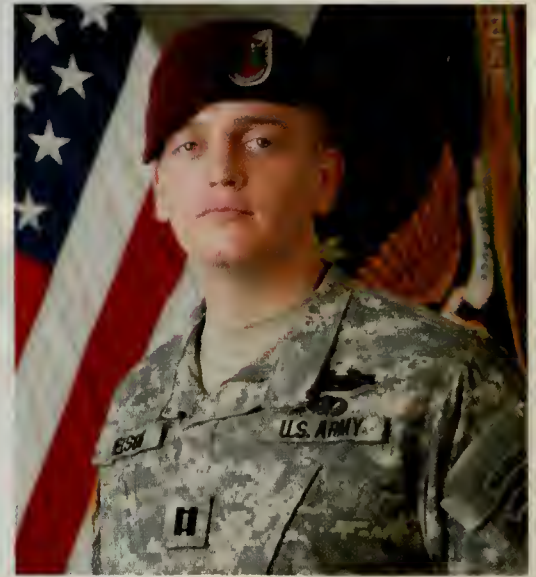
BLACKSHEEP



ABLE COMPANY



COMPANY COMMANDER
CPT LOUIS FRKETIC



COMPANY COMMANDER
CPT DAVID NELSON



COMPANY FIRST SERGEANT
1SG FRANKLIN VELEZ





WARLORDS



1. SSG GRAFTON & SSG Grafton "attempt to identify ACM positions" on the high ground. SPC Corona also gets in on the action, at Operation Road Dog.

2. SGT OCHOA ATTEMPTS to bring back the cavalry by showing off his donkey riding skills

3. THE SPARTANS
3rd Platoon

4. SPC SMILLEY

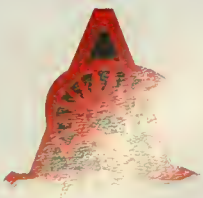
5. ABLE MAIN

6. 1ST PLATOON
Soldiers from HQ section, 1st PLT, pose for a picture during their BDA patrol at EA HUSKIES

7. 2ND PLATOON

8. PFC BAKER

9. SSG WALLACE
inspects a built up enemy fighting position that overlooks the Watapor Valley during OPERATION SNAKETooth.



WARLORDS



PFC AKERS, JOSH
SGT ALEXANDER, DITSEN
1LT AMBROSIA, GREGORY
SPC BAKER, ROBERT



SGT BARKMAN, JEREMIAH
SPC BARTH, JON
SSG BEYER, KYLE
SGT BINDER, WILLIAM



PFC BISOL, AARON
PFC BOTZEN, WESTON
SGT BURNETT, DON
PFC CAMARENA, CECILIO



PFC CAMARILLO, DAVID
SPC CATUNGAL, ROGELIO
SSG CECIL, JOSHUA
SFC CHARO, CHRISTOPHER



SPC CHILDS, WILLIAM
SSG CLAPP, RYAN
PFC CORONA, JAMES
PFC DAVIDSON, BRANDON





WARLORDS



PFC DENNIS, PARRIS
SPC DEYO, LLOYD
PFC DINGBAUM, LEON
PFC DRENSKI, JERMEY



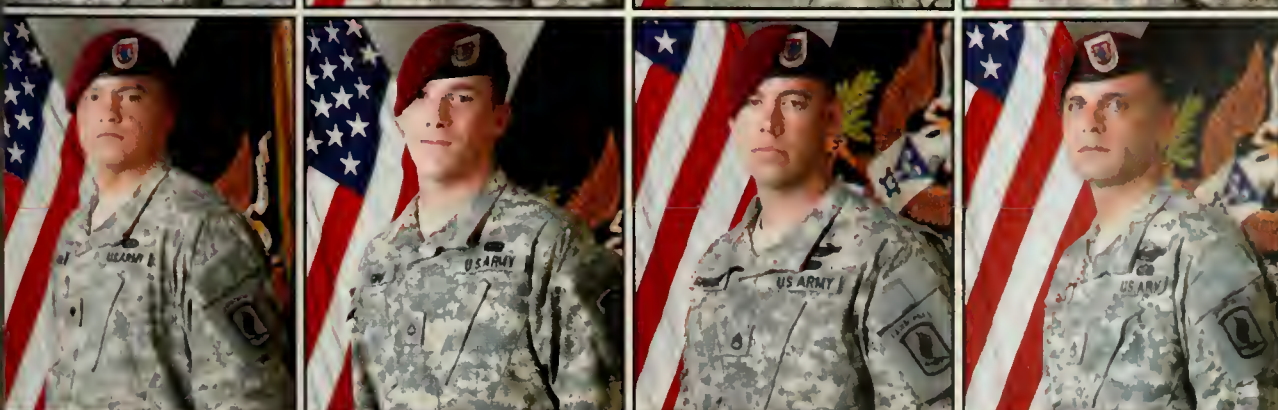
PFC EISELE, SCOTT
SSG ELSTON, JACK
SGT ERTMER, DEREK
SGT ESTRADA, ALEXANDER



SGT EVANS, MICHAEL
PFC FLOECK, CHRIS
PFC FOSTER, RESHAUDE
PFC FREE, TREMAYNE



SFC FUCHS, LEONARD
PFC GOINS, BENJAMIN
PFC GORMAN, BRYCE
SSG GRAFTON, STEPHEN



SPC GRAVELLE, SCOTT
PFC GRAY, ANTHONY
SSG GREGORY, JASON
SSG GULLO, JOHN



WARLORDS



SSG HALL, DAVID
SPC HAMMER, NICHOLAS
SSG HARDING, JASON
SPC HARRIS, MICHAEL



PFC HART, ZACHARY
PFC HATFEILD, JORDAN
CPT HAUGER, CLINT
SPC HELLMANN, DANIEL



PFC HILL, RICHARD
SGT HIMROD, JAMES
PFC HOLMES, JOSHUA
PFC HOOPERFRAHM, KYLE



PV2 HUCKEBA, PHILLIP
PFC HURT, JACOB
SGT HUTCHINGS, JARED
PFC JAMES, JONATHAN



SGT JAMES, LARRY
SPC JOINER, BRIAN
PFC JONES, CAVAUGHN
PFC KARNES, BILLY





WARLORDS



No
Photo
Available



1LT KEEFE, DANIEL
1LT KENNEDY, BRANDON
PFC KING, CHRISTOPHER
PFC KING, RYAN



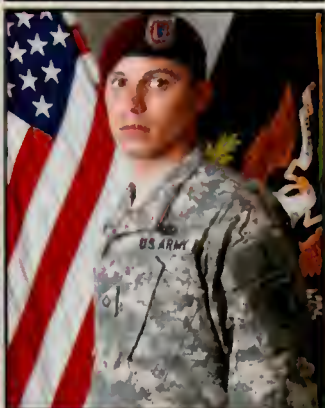
PFC KLIX, KRISTOPHER
SGT KOICHEVAR, CHAD
SSG KREPEL, DAWAYNE
PFC KRUSELY, ANTHONY



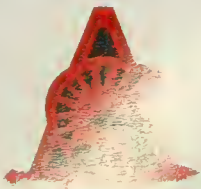
PFC LACKEY, EUGENE
PFC LAZARIDI, PAVEL
PFC LEMARR, SETH
2LT LEVAY, JASON



PFC LEWIS, KYLE
PFC LOCKLEAR, TIMOTHY
SPC LONGNECKER, TRAVIS
PFC LOPEZ, DAVID



SSG LOPEZ, FRANCISCO
PFC LOPEZ, HORACIO
PFC LYONS, ANDREW
SSG MADING, BRIAN



WARLORDS



SFC MAGANA, JOSE
PFC MARQUEZ, RAUL
PFC MARTINEZ, LEONARD
PFC MCCUMBER,
NICHOLAS



SGT MERCADO, RICHARD
SSG METCALFE, DANIEL
PFC MEYER, FREDERICK
SPC MICHELS, CHISM



SGT MILLER, JAMES
PFC MITCHELL, KYLE
SGT MITCHELL, THEODIS
SGT MORSE, JASON



PFC NORMANDIN,
RYANLEIGHTON
PFC PAXTON, JARED
SGT PEMBLE, KENNETH
PFC PETSCH, TREVOR



PFC PHILLIPS, LARON
SPC PIKE, RYAN
PFC PIQUET, CHRISTOPHER
PFC PORTILLO,
CHRISTOPHER





WARLORDS



PFC POWELL, BENJAMIN
PFC PROSS, NATHAN
SPC PUTHOFF, WILLIAM
SGT REID, ARIC



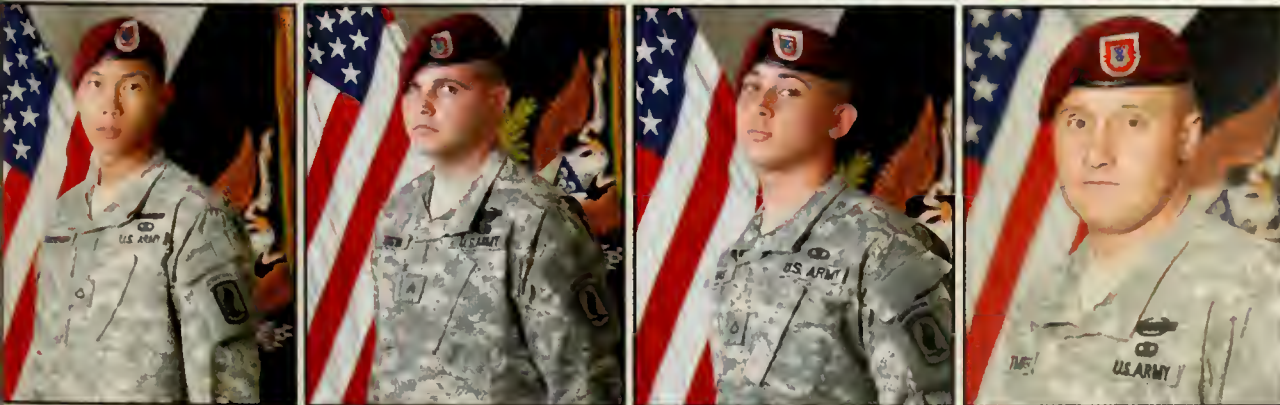
PFC ROTHWELL, NATHAN
PFC RYAN, ROBERT
PFC SALAZAR, DANIEL
PFC SANTAMARIA, ABDIAS



SPC SCHOONMAKER,
DAVID
PFC SCHROTH, MICHAEL
SPC SMILEY, JONATHAN
SFC SMITH, JEREMIAH



SSG SMITH, ROBERT
SSG SOKOLOWSKI, STEPHEN
PFC SUNDVALL, TIMOTHY
SGT SWILLEY, JOSHUA



PFC TANTAYANURAK, KIJJA
SGT TESTA, ANTHONY
PFC THOMAS, STANLEY
SPC THOMPSON, MICHAEL

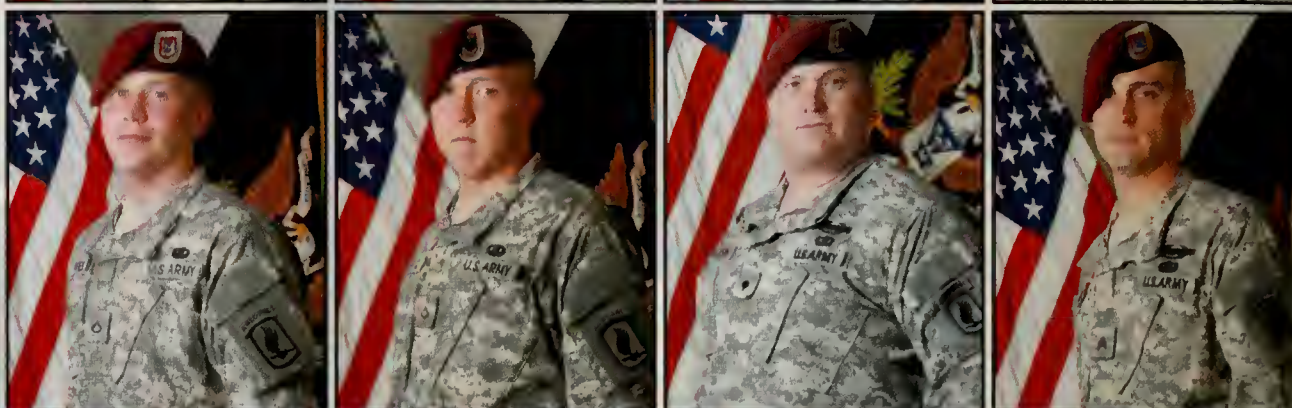
WARLORDS



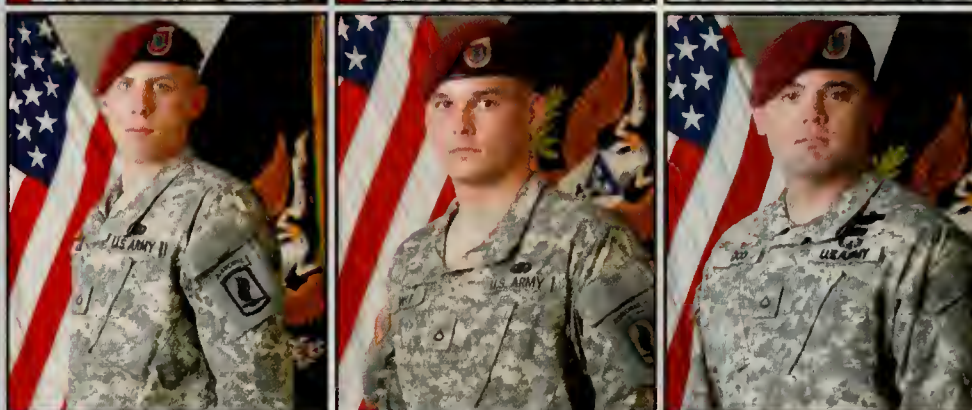
PFC THORNTON, MATTHEW
PFC TRAMEL, MATTHEW
PFC VANSOIK, SEAN
SSG WALLIS, PHILIP



PFC WEST, BENJAMIN
PFC WHITEHEAD, BRIAN
SPC WILKINSON, DANIEL
SGT WILLIAMS, NATHAN



PFC WILLIAMS, STEPHEN
PFC WITT, MATTHEW
SPC WOOD, DJ





WARLORDS



1. THE REMAINS OF
of 3rd platoon member PFC
Miracle and PFC [Name] during
their memorial service at VPB
Combat Main, July 2007

2. SGT STAMPIN
off his Dragon Platoon logo

3. SOLDIERS FROM
Dragon Platoon scan the ridgeline
south of Able Main.

4. SSG HARDING AND
SGT Pross sweat it out during a
dismounted patrol on the Matin-
kolag trail.

5. SPC PUTHOFF ENROLLS
local man in the Hlidi system at a
TCP

6. SSG COULTER, SSG
Cecil, and LT Goines hydrate back
at VPB Asadabad following the
Battle of Tsangar

7. SSG WALLACE FINDS
a 7.62 casing from an AK47 south
of VPB California during a
dismounted search and attack
mission.

8. SPC MICHELS ENJOYS
his Christmas Dinner while on duty.

9. 1LT JOSH HARRISSON
inventories an enemy mortar cache
that his platoon found thanks to a
walk in source.



WARLORDS



1. SSG BARKMAN AND
fire team demonstrate room
clearing during mount training with
Kandigal ANP
2. PFC CHILDS

3. SPARTANS HOUSE

4. SSG FOOTE GETS
reenlisted by his former PL, CPT
Rowe, at Able Main

5. LT LEVAY CRACKS A
smile while handing out new shoes
to the children of Bar Kanday
School

6. CPT FRKETIC AND
CDR Legree sit down with the
elders of Sundry

7. SFC ZELESKI
promotes some young paratroop-
ers in his platoons

8. SPC HOOKER SHOWS
some humor while receiving
medical attention after he received
some shrapnel following a firefight.

9. SGT ERTMER TAKES
a nap next to the platoon mascot,
WARLORD.

10. SPC HOOKER GIVES
the camera some love during a
break from work at Able Main

11. 2ND PLATOON
conducts a dismounted patrol north
of the village of Tantil

12. A DRAGON PLATOON
team leader waits for an up from
his TC's before heading out on a
counter IED patrol

13. A SOLDIER FROM
Dragon Platoon tries to catch a nap
in between guard shifts

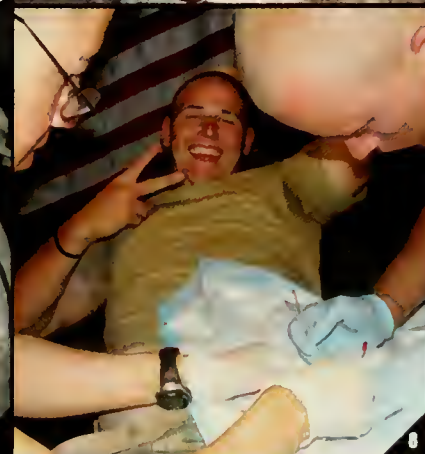
14. LT GOINES AND
LT Ambrosia pose after crossing
the Pech River

15. SPC BAKER TAKES A
breather from humping his M240B
machine gun during a dismounted
patrol

16. OPERATION ROCK
Avalanche, members of Dragon
Platoon move their MK19 machine
gun into a good overwatch position
over the village of Tsam.

17. SPC HOOKER KEEPS
an eye for the enemy while
manning his .50 Cal MG

18. SSG SOKOLOWSKI
and his soldiers take a break from
working on new VPB Honaker/





WARLORDS



11



10



12



13



14



15



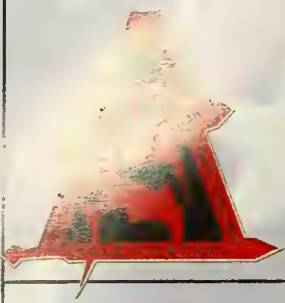
16



17



18



WARLORDS



1. SSG SKOLDOWSKI

conducts Cordon & Search training with 11 Kandigal ANP.

2. A21 INSPECTS THE

identification of a local national while conducting a TCP in the village of Barkanday.

3. A36 COLLECTS TARGET

stands and E type silhouettes so his soldiers can conduct weapons training.

4. PFC DAVIDSON

5. LTC DSTLUND

congratulates SSG Grafton and SPC Joiner after presenting them with ARCOMs with Valor Device for their heroic actions in the Watapor Valley earlier in the deployment

6. SPARTANS

7. DRAGDN PLATDNN

fills sandbags for their new home at Able Main, "Dragon's Lair"

8. THE SNOW COVERED

monument, dedicated to PFCs Honaker and Miracle, keeps watch over the FOB that now bears their names.

9. SPARTAN GUNNER

10. PFC MCCUMBER

11. SPC TANTAYANURAK

scans his sector during a BDA patrol south of Sundray

12. ETT'S HELP PROVIDE

medical care during a Medcap in Kandigal

13. 2ND PLATODN MEDIC

SPC Torrey poses for the camera during a dismounted patrol in the village of Kolak

14. LT LEVAY AND LT

Goines reflect on the last 24 hours following the Battle of Tsangar

15. SPC DEVD

16. MEMBERS OF 3RD

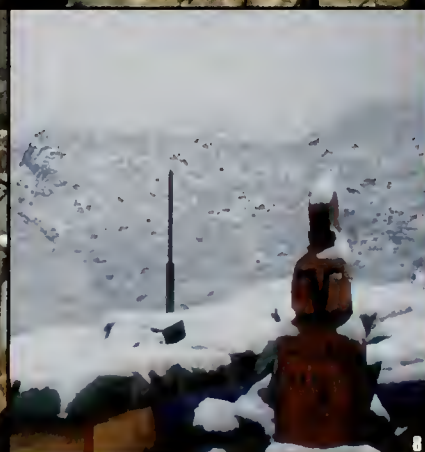
Platoon sit down to enjoy a late afternoon Christmas Meal

17. DDC JORDAN

enjoys a rambow on a hot day at Able Main

18. SPC RAPRANGER

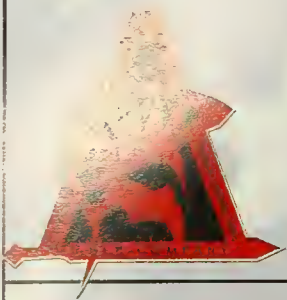
enjoys a light read during a late day summer shower





WARLORDS

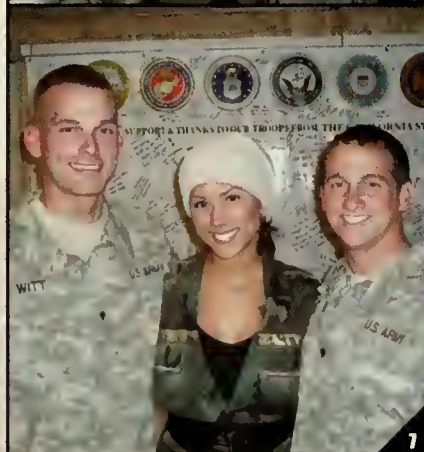
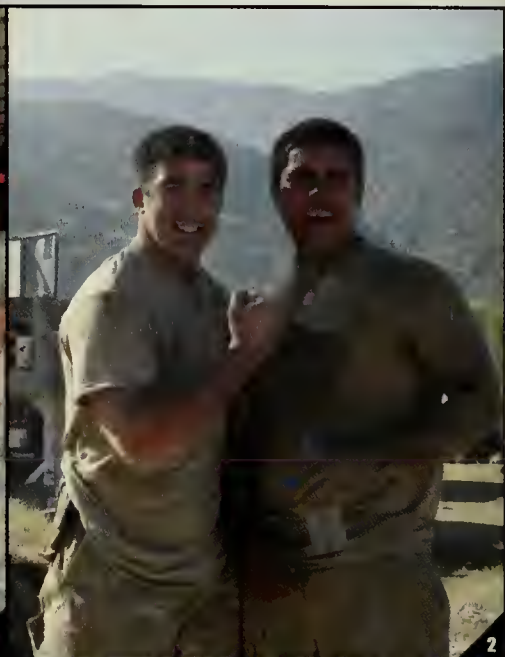




WARLORDS



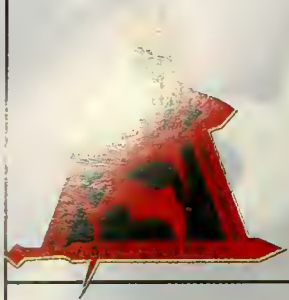
- 1. THE BOYS OF 1ST**
platoon showing their Christmas Cheer
- 2. LT KENNEDY AND SPC**
Salazar pose after a grappling match that left both competitors covered in sweat and dirt.
- 3. PFC NORMANDIN, A**
native Texan, hams it up with the Dallas Cowboys
- 4. 2,000LB GBU FOUND**
unexploded near a Banda in Sundray
- 5. SPC NICHOLS A FIRE**
Team Leader, on a mission near Asmar, Kunar Province giving sectors of fire to his Automatic Rifleman SPC Hurt.
- 6. PFC FLOECK, PFC**
King, and PFC Camarena enjoying the nicer things at the USO tours.
- 7. SPC'S WITT & SMILEY**
pose with FHM cover girl.
- 8. SSG LOPEZ**
conducting radio watch during a three day mission to the Dangam District Headquarters.
- 9. PV2 POWELL RECEIVES**
his Christmas Stocking from SFC Magana.
- 10. DOC FIGUEROA TRIES**
to spread the words of peace throughout the Watapor Valley, one local national at a time.
- 11. 3RD PLATOON TAKES**
a break from its busy schedule to pose for a Christmas Card
- 12. PFC GOINES ENGAGES**
targets with his 9mm on the Neverland Range at FOB Honaker Miracle
- 13. 1SG VELEZ, 1LT**
LeVay, SFC Magana
- 14. A6 & A9 SHARE A**
moment during FB Michigan's weekly Shura which brings together head elders from seven major surrounding villages.
- 15. A26 DRINKS CHAI**
with Barkanday ANP
- 16. RETURNING FROM**
patrol in the Shudergay Valley
- 17. SPC GRAVELLE GETS**
into the spirit as the soldiers of 3rd PLT enjoy their Christmas mean together
- 18. SGT FAKTON & SGT**
Find returning from conduction and their patrol around the Dangam District Headquarters.





WARLORDS





WARLORDS



1. AFTER SPOTTING 3

individuals with weapons on the Pund Sar peak, SGT Swilley draws a bead on a soon to be dead insurgent fighter attempting to flee.

2. AG HELPS A SMALL

girl find her way during the Kandigal Medcap

3. DANGAM RIVER

crossing to conduct R&S Patrol to an OP located to the North East.

4. SFC MAGANA, SFC

O'Dell, Shir Walli, and the CEO for the SAFI construction company during the COP Able Monti ASG compound opening ceremony.

5. SFC MAGANA

discussing with his interpreter issues to be addressed prior to conduct and inspection and to brief the ASG at COP Able Monti.

6. MEMBERS OF 3RD PLT

conduct a traffic control point outside of the Qamchi ANP station

7. SPC LYONS, SFC

Magana, and SPC Gau

8. SGT ESTRADA'S FIRE

Team (SPC Klux, SPC Baker, and SPC Gorman) conducting a class on how to properly lay concertina wire.

9. CPT FKRETIC, CPT

Nelson and LTC Ostlund conducting a meeting with the Dangam District Sub-Governor.

10. PFC NATFIELD AND

SGT Binder move to set up their 60mm Mortar system.

11. SPC WEST CONDUCTS

security during a mission at an OP West of the COP Able Monti.

12. AG VISITS SUNDRA

to discuss the financing of a future rug factory.

13. 1ST PLATOON

Soldiers waiting for the ASG Compound opening ceremony at COP Able Monti.

14. WHILE MOST PEOPLE

pay big money for lake front property, the soldiers of 3rd PLT attempt to dig trenches to drain one of the many small ponds that formed around the camp after the first snow thaw.

15. SGT GONZALEZ

using local transportation.

16. SFC MAGANA, 1LT

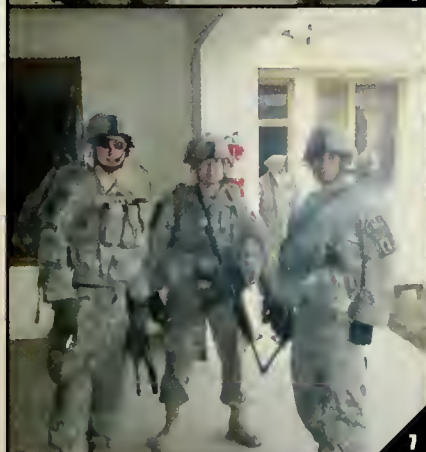
Leone, and 1LT Rape enjoying a game of pool.

17. SGT LYONS TAKING

notes on recent enemy activity in the area of operations.

18. A 60MM MORTAR

crew setting up their weapon system as part of KLE in the village of Shangar.





WARLORDS





WARLORDS



1. **SPC LACKY, SPC Williams, SPC King and SPC Akers.**
2. **SPC CHILDS PULLS** security in the Sematan Bazar.
3. **SPC CATUNGAL** pulling security.
4. **SPC KRDESLY, SGT Ertmer, and SPC King** from 1st PLT preparing to conduct a dismounted patrol.
5. **SGT HIMROD RECEIVES** instructions from SSG Sokolowski.
6. **CPT NELSON, 1SG Velez, and SFC Magana** recognizing several Paratroopers during an award ceremony.
7. **SPC GRAY STANDING** by the big rock also known as an AAF fighting position.
8. **SFC MAGANA DRINKING** tea.
9. **SPC HURT PLACING** a local national as part of a Traffic Control Point in Shigal.
10. **SPC WILLIAMS ON** his M240B Machine Gun.
11. **3RD SQUAD 2ND PLT** at Fob Michigan.
12. **SPC LEWARR TAKES** a break between firing interations during marksmanship training.
13. **SPC PETSCH FIRING** his 9mm at Able Mains pistol range.
14. **2ND SQUAD 2ND PLT** prepares to asend the mountain to ANA OP Pride Rock near FOB Michigan.
15. **3RD SQUAD 2ND PLT** practice battle drill 1A at FOB Michigan.
16. **SPC DAVIDSON, SPC Whitehead, SPC Figueroa, and SPC Goins.**
17. **SPC CORONA** standing guard.
18. **SGT NIMROD MAKES** friends with a local puppy before heading out on patrol.





WARLORDS





WARLORDS



1. 2ND WPN'S SQUAD

returning from a Combat patrol south of Able Main. SGT Hutchings is leading the patrol.

2. SPC PHILLIPS PUTS

SPC Figueroa in a burka demonstrating who the man is in the room.

3. GENERAL RODRIGUEZ'S

visit ends with him handing out coins to deserving Soldiers like SPC Normandin and SPC Whitehead.

4. 3RD PLT GUN TEAM

5. SPC LOCKLEAR

calling in the location of the patrol.

6. ABLE MAIN

7. SGT GONZALEZ

washing some clothes at Able Main.

8. SPC DAVIDSON

posing as a Chinook is taking off from Honaker Miracle.

9. SPC SMITH AND SSG

Grafton conducting a shura with the Elders of the village of Tenday.

10. 1LT KENNEDY

and SSG Hall Looking on as they get ready to go into a village.

11. 1ST PLATOON

Able Company gathers for a photo after conducting mission rehearsals for Operation Rock Penetrator.

12. SSG GREGORY, LOOK

he's not at JAF.

13. SOLDIERS OF 3RD

PLT taking a rest and hanging (hiding) out while the Team Leaders work on the North Gun position of Able Main.

14. SPC FIGUEROA &

SPC Davidson about to depart on Mounted Counter IED Patrol.

15. SPC FIGUEROA

serenading SPC Gains and SPC Whitehead. Notice the star gazing look in the eyes of those being serenaded. And to think it has only been 10 months.

16. 1STM 3RD & HQ

elements conduct movement up to the village of Tenday.

17. SPC UNDERWOOD

concentrating on the task at hand.

18. SPC LOCKHART

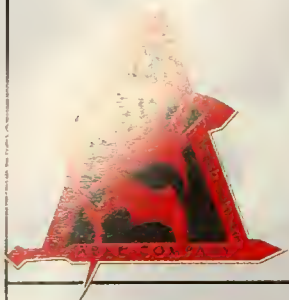
playing some time off.





WARLORDS





WARLORDS



1. 1ST PLATOON, RACKS

Out at FOB Abad before Operation Rock Penetrator.

2. SFC FUCHS IS

always ready for action.

3. 2ND SQUAD

taking a quick halt.

4. SSG BEYER IS BUSY

giving his men there sectors of fire.

5. SGT GUIDRY IS

always ready to call for fire.

6. SPC LOPEZ, SPC

Hunt, and SGT Evans relaxing after a mounted patrol to COP Able Main.

7. TRYING TO SET UP

guy in a good shady spot.

8. SPC LEWIS IS

having a good time during the mission.

9. SSG WALLIS

briefing his squad on their roles during Operation Rock Penetrator.

10. SSG METCALFE AND

SPC King after conducting PCI's at COP Honaker-Miracle

11. SGT MARTIN &

SPC Rankin observing a fire mission during Operation Rock Penetrator.

12. SSG WALLIS AND

SSG Metcalfe modeling their newly issued tops at COP Honaker-Miracle.

13. SSG METCALFE AND

his Gun Team SPC Gorman, SPC King, and PFC Krusely.

14. SPC'S MEYER,

Camarillo and Lemar prepare to move to the objective during Operation Rock Penetrator.

15. 2ND SQUAD, 1ST PLT

ready for an air-assault mission into the Narang Valley.

16. 2ND SQUAD, 1ST

PLT after mission rehearsal at FOB ABAD

17. 2LT KEEFE IS

focusing on the task at hand during his first mission with 2nd PLT

18. SPC LOPEZ IS

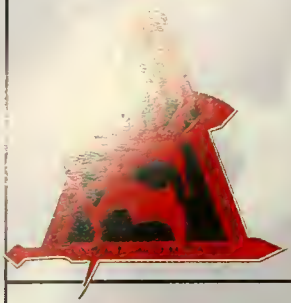
ready for anything as 26R





WARLORDS





WARLORDS



1. SFC SMITH ENSURING
the proper count when counting his
men through the choke point.

2. SPC GRAVELLE
laying in the prone next to a tree
providing security on a leader's
recon.

3. SPC PIQUET
walking down the mountain
towards the low ground carrying the
SAW with Pride.

4. CPT HAUGER & CPT
Nelson going over plans for a fire
mission during Operation Rock
Penetrator.

5. SPC NORMANDIN
walking UP to HIGH ground during
Operation Longest Mile.

6. LT KENNEDY....
need I say more.

7. DDC GROSS
teaching ANA soldiers, how to treat
a wounded local national after
suffering a hand injury due to an
attack on Able Main.

8. SPC CATUNGAL
preparing to mount the vehicle
after the patrol brief to go to
Honaker Miracle.

9. SPC HOLMES IS ON
the move.

10. PV2 FREE
attending to business between
CPT Nelson and the company.

11. LT KENNEDY
briefing the squad leaders, SSG
Grafton, SSG Hall, SSG Gregory,
and SGT Hutchings.

12. ABLE COMPANY
showing appreciation to Thunder 8
and the rest of the mortar team.

13. FD'S AND RTD'S
of Able Company at Able Main.

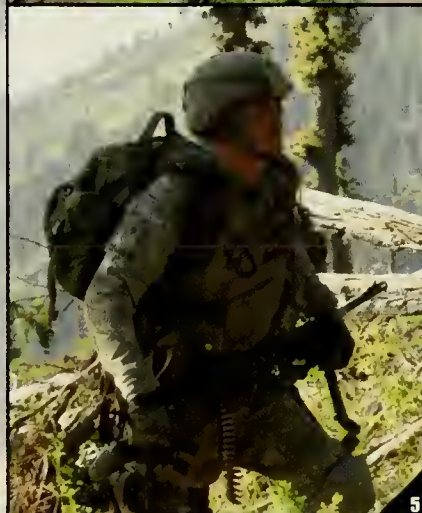
14. CPT NELSON, 1LT
Ambrosia, 1SG Velez , and SGT
Testa after phase one of Operation
Rock Penetrator.

15. FD WITH DSHK

16. ABLE COMPANY
Scouts moving into an over watch
position.

17. SFC SMITH AND LT
Kennedy looking towards the low
ground to identify key positions to
over watch.

18. SPC DENNIS
checking on his men ensuring
proper camouflage.





WARLORDS



BATTLE COMPANY

BATTLE HARD



COMPANY COMMANDER
CPT DANIEL P. KEARNEY



COMPANY FIRST SERGEANT
1SG LAMONTA CALDWELL



BATTLE HARD



1. BATTLE TOC in Halloween costumes
2. CAPT KEARNEY ceremony.
3. 1ST PFC CHISENHALL at FB Vegas
4. LT PIOSA & SGT Underwood.
5. 155'S FIRING THE fallen hero illumination mission.
6. SHOCKWAVE
7. CAPTAIN KEARNEY at his weekly shura
8. THE NEWEST addition to Battle Company, PFC Chisenhall arrives at the front gate of the KOP, musket in hand.
9. SGT MILLER & PFC Viets at OP Pride Rock.



BATTLE HARD



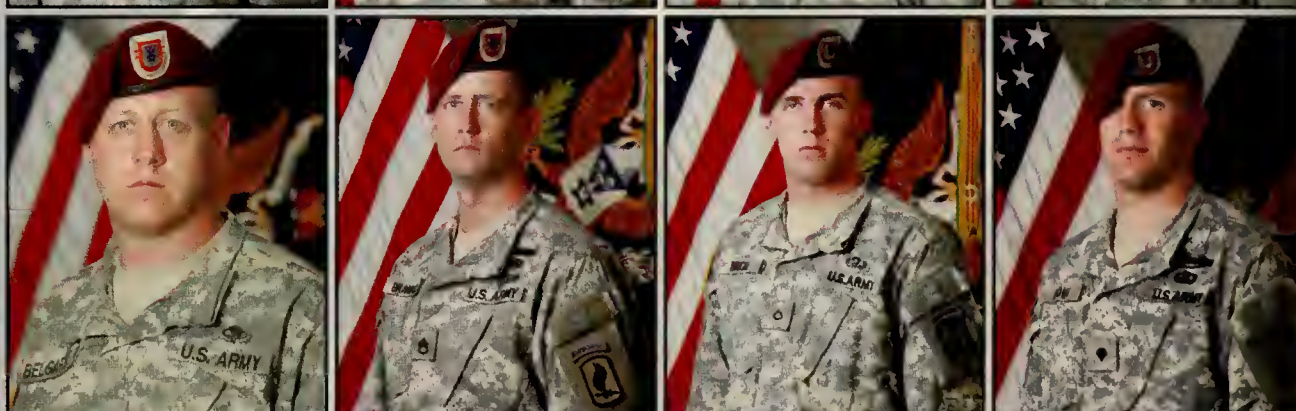
SSG ALCANTARA, ELLIOTT
SSG ALLDREDGE, JASON
PVT ANDERSON, ERIC
SPC BALDWIN, JASON



SFC BARBERET, DAVID
PFC BARNARD, JERRY
PV2 BASS, SCOTT
PVT BEACH, EMERSON



SPC BELGARDE, CODY
SFC BRANSCUM, GARY
PFC BRIGGS, WESLEY
PFC BROWN, ARTHUR



SGT BULLOCK, KEVIN
PV2 BUNNELL,
CHRISTOPHER
SSG BUNO, TEODORO
PV2 BURNS, WILLIAM

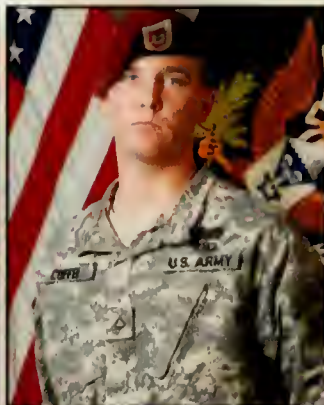
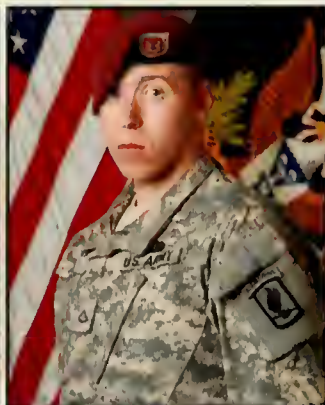


SPC CAMPBELL, MICHAEL
PFC CANTU, VINNY
PFC CASEY, KALEB
PVT CHICO, JAMES

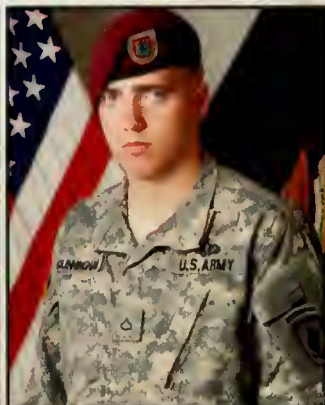




BATTLE HARD



SGT CHIOKE, MICHAEL
PFC CHISENHALL,
NICHOLAS
PVT CLARY, GARRETT
SGT COFFEE, ALDUS



PVT CORTEZ, MIGUEL
SSG COULTER, MATTHEW
PFC CUNNINGHAM,
MICHAEL
SGT DANFORTH, CRAIG



SPC DIEBLER, LEVI
PFC DONOHO, TADA
PFC DUNN, STERLING
PV2 ECKRODE, FRANKLIN



PFC EDMONDS, ERIK
SGT EDWARDS, TYRELL
PVT ELIZONDO, ROBERT
SGT ERICKSON, MICHAEL



PVT FIMBRES, JAMES
SGT FULLER, SAMUEL
SSG GALLARDO, ERICK
SGT GANGWER, TYLER



BATTLE HARD



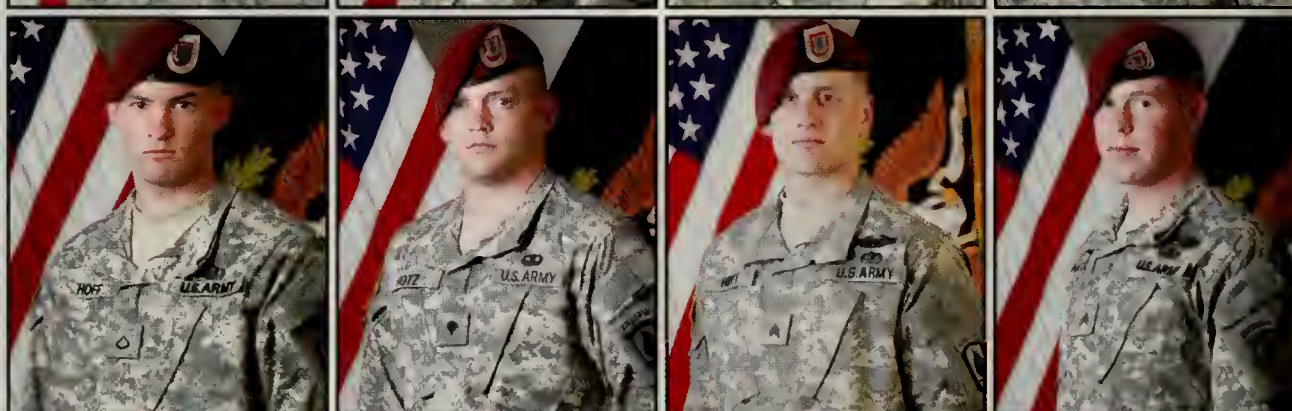
2LT GILLESPIE, STEPHEN
SGT GIUNTA, SALVATORE
PV2 GRIEGO, DERRICK
PFC GUTIERREZ, MIGUEL



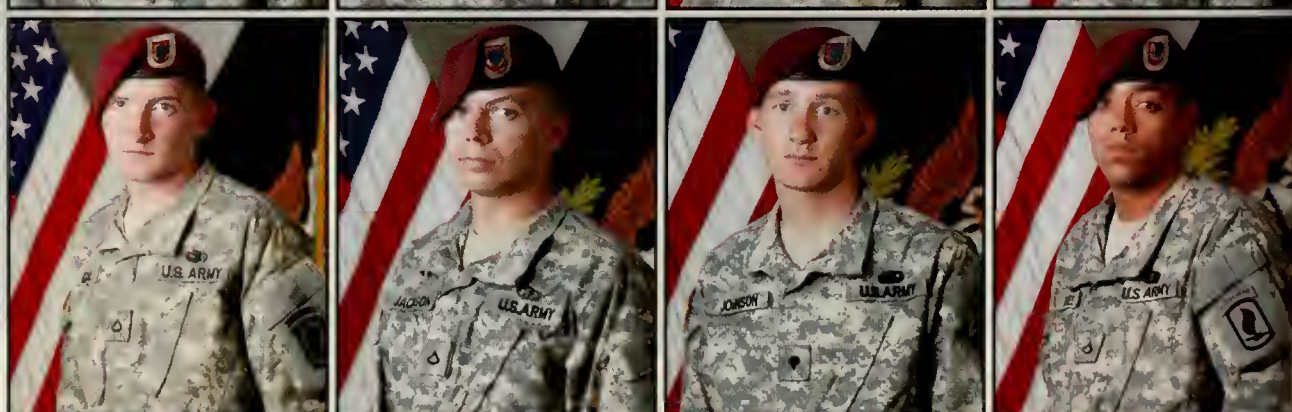
PV2 HARTLINE, ERIC
SGT HAYNES, STEVEN
PV2 HENRY, DUSTIN
SGT HIJAR, ARON



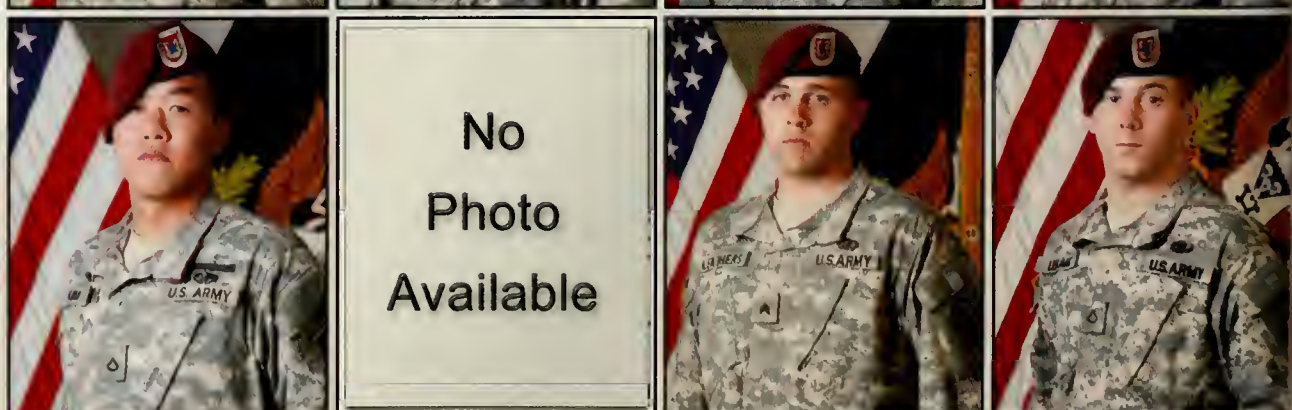
PFC HOFF, TIMOTHY
PFC HOTZ, BRYAN
SGT HOYT, CHRISTOPHER
SGT HUNTER, THOMAS



PFC IZELL, CHRISTOPHER
PFC JACKSON, MICHAEL
SPC JOHNSON, ANDREW
PV2 JONES, STERLING



PVT KIM, STEVE
SGT LAMBERT, JOHN
SSG LEATHERS, MICHAEL
PFC LIBLANC, MATTHEW





BATTLE HARD



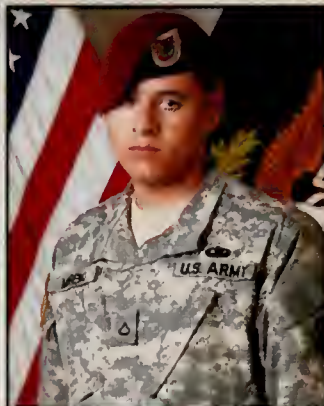
SPC LEE, CAYLEB
PV2 LINDLEY, RICHARD
PFC LIZAMA, RYAN
SPC MACE, JASON



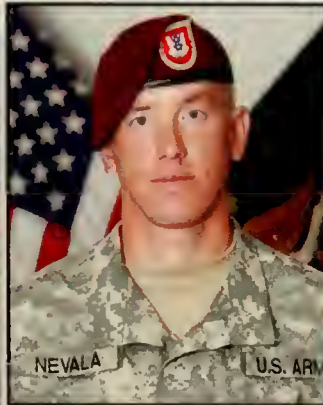
1LT MACGREGOR, IAN
SSG MARTIN, RUSSELL
SPC MCDANIEL, JEFFREY
SSG MCDONOUGH, JOSHUA



PV2 MCCLAUCHLAN,
ANDREW
PFC MICKEM, JON
SGT MILLER, MARCUS
1LT MOAD, MICHAEL



PV2 MONROE, DANIEL
PVT MONROE, JASON
PVT MORENO, MATTHEW
PVT MURPHY, ROSS



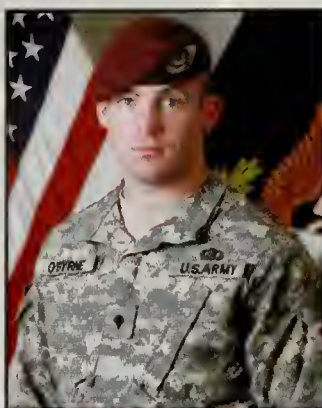
SSG NAVASMARTINEZ,
CARLOS
PVT NEVALA, LUKE
PFC NEWBERRY, SHAWN
PV2 OBENNOSKEY,
ANTHONY



BATTLE HARD



SGT O'BYRNE, BRENDAN
SPC OLIVARES, MICHAEL
PV2 OLSON, BRANDON
SGT OQUENDO, FRANCISCO



SSG PADILLAMUNGUIA,
RAMON
SSG PARFITT, JOSEPH
SFC PATTERSON, MARK
PV2 PAULSON, KRISTOPHER



PVT PEMBLE-BELKIN,
MISHA
SPC PERRY, BRETT
PV2 PROCTOR, KENNETH
SSG RENTASSALOME,
MCKELY



SSG REYES, CHRIS
SSG RICE, KEVIN
SGT RICHARDSON, DANIEL
PV2 RINARD, KEVIN



PV2 RIZZO, ZACHARIAH
SGT ROBERSON, BENJAMIN
PVT ROBERTS, MATTHEW
SGT ROBERTS, PETER





BATTLE HARD



SGT ROSENWALD, ADAM
PV2 RUEDA, GEORGE
PFC RUSSELL, KRISTOPHER
SPC SHADIX, DARREN



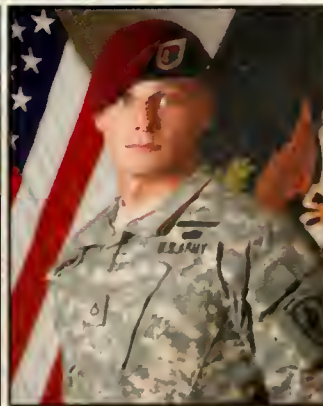
SSG SIMON, MATTHEW
PFC SKAINES, DANIEL
PVT SMITH, RYAN
PV2 SOLOWSKI, MARC



SGT SOTO, ADRIAN
PFC SPANGLER, STEPHEN
PV2 SPARK, TED
PFC SPINO, NICHOLAS



SPC STEINER, KYLE
SGT STICHTER, TANNER
PVT THOMAS,
CHRISTOPHER
SGT THOMAS, NATHAN



SPC THOMPSON, JEFFREY
SPC TORRES, RAFAEL
PVT TOVES, ANGEL
PFC UNDERWOOD, BRIAN



BATTLE HARD



SGT UNDERWOOD, MATTHEW
SPC VANDEBERGE, CARL
2LT VARNER, RICHARD
PFC VAUGHN, CRAIG



PVT VIETS, RICKEY
PVT VILLAREAL, DAVID
PV2 WALKER, LUCAS
PV2 WHITE, MATTHEW



SGT WHITE, TAYLOR
SGT WILLIAMS, SETH
PV2 WILSON, BOBBY
PVT WILSON, CODY



SGT WILSON, DAMON
1LT WINN, BRADLEY
SGT WOOD, WILLIAM
PFC WORREL, CHRISTOPHER



PV2 ZASKI, KYLE





BATTLE HARD



1. BOMBARD AT
FOB VEGAS
2. FOB VEGAS

3. BOMBARD PATROL
with ANA

4. PFC MONTY, WFC
Hijar, SPC Underwood

5. LT PIOSA &
SSG SIMON.

6. MORTAR ROUND

7. SGT RULLOCK &
SPC NEVALLA

8. LT PIOSA & SFC
Patterson

9. SANTA & CSM
MEYERS



BATTLE HARD



1. BATTLE COMPANY 2ND

Platoon

2. SGT STICHTER

3. LT WINN & 1SG

Caldwell.

4. SSG SHELTON, SSG

Allredge and SSG Rougle.

5. LT VARNER, 1SG

Caldwell, LT Winn, LT Steger, and LT Neal serving Thanksgiving Dinner

6. PLT FIRES AT AWARD

Ceremony.

7. 1SG, SFC PATTERSON

and SGT Richardson

8. PFC RESTREPO

caught smoking.

9. SGT HOYT AND PFC

Kim digging at OP Restrepo.

10. SGT HAYNES AND

one of his workers.

11. THE SPARTANS!

12. BATTLE BUI PINS

on Specialist.

13. ISAF COMMANDER

hands out coins.

14. GENERAL MCNEIL

speaks to the men of Battle Co.

15. GENERAL MCNEIL

and Col Preysler with awardees.

16. WILDCAT 1 AFTER

the completion of Operation Dark City.

17. SPC HIJAR

18. PFC VANDENBERG





BATTLE HARD





BATTLE HARD



1. GO BUFFS! PICTURE

taken for Coach Hawkins and will be contacting and sending to PFC Murphree at Walter Reed.

2. 4TH OF JULY

fireworks from the 120mm at the KOP

3. BATTLE COMPANY 3RD

Platoon.

4. 3RD PLATOON TAKING

chowing down on Thanksgiving Dinner

5. SSG ROUGLE AND

SSG Rice.

6. CHIRSTMAS DINNER

at COP Vimoto.

7. CPT KEARNEY, GEN

McNeil and 1SG Caldwell

8. SGT WOOD AT THE

KOP.

9. SSG LARRY ROUGLE

Place caption text here. Place caption for photo

10. SPC UNDERWOOD,

SGT Buno and SPC Erickson eating dinner

11. THE BIRD GOING

to Afghanistan.

12. RPG HOLE AT FB

Phoenix

13. BATTLE COMPANY

NCO'S

14. PFC RESTREPO &

SGT Stitcher trying out large ear plugs

15. BATTLE 6 & BATTLE

9 patrolling in Korengal Valley

16. BATTLE COMPANY

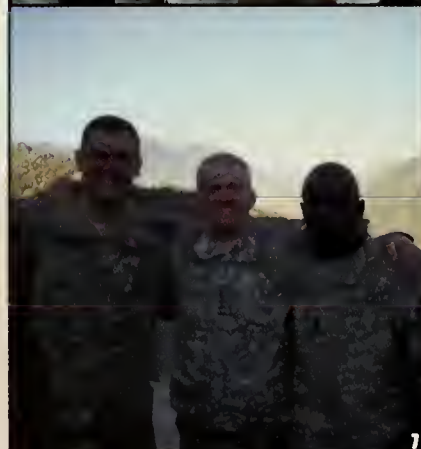
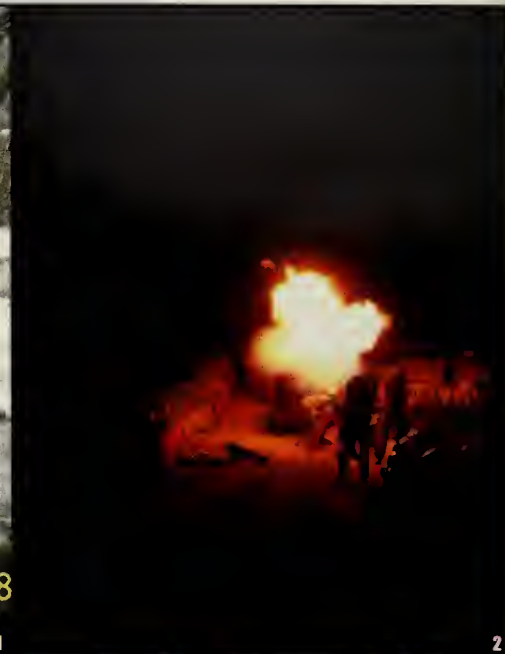
with General McNeil

17. JACKSON AT

Bagram.

18. SGT RENTAS AT

Bagram Airfield.





BATTLE HARD



11



10



12



13



14



15



16



17



18



BATTLE HARD



- 1. 2ND PLT SPARTANS**
at the range on Camp Blessing.
- 2. SSG COULTER FIRES**
the M777 howitzer in support of 1st
PLT during Operation Sure Shot.
- 3. BATTLE COMPANY**
with MG Rodriguez and LTG Ham.
- 4. COOKING ON A COLD**
day at the OP.
- 5. SGT THOMAS, SPC**
Olivares and the ANA SL pose
near the KOP HA distribution
center.
- 6. ADMIRAL MULLEN**
and soldiers of Battle Company.
- 7. SGT YOUNG &**
SPC Rogers heading out on a
night time scout mission.
- 8. SSG SNIPES BEING**
cared for by SGT Young after
injuring his shoulder. Note the
shades and earplugs thoughtfully
provided by Team 1.
- 9. SPC COFFEE**
reenlists in the Korengal Valley.
- 10. ADMIRAL MULLEN,**
1SG Caldwell and LT Winn.
- 11. SPC LIVESAY TAKES**
aim at Honcho Hill with his sniper
rifle.
- 12. SGT OQUENDO**
shortly before his gun team made
contact during Operation Rock
Penetrator.
- 13. PSG's AND 1SG**
at Award Ceremony.
- 14. DONGA ELDERS**
thank 1lt moad during a patrol
through the village following a
large scale ACM attack that was
defeated.
- 15. 1LT WINN ORIENTS**
Admiral Mullen to the Korengal
Valley.
- 16. FEBRUARY**
Promotions: LT Cummings, SGT
Erikson, SGT Jones, SPC Beam,
and SPC Williams.
- 17. B92 IS PROMOTED**
to SPC Murphy
- 18. SGT UNDERWOOD AT**
his 60mm mortar firing point during
Operation Rock Penetrator.





BATTLE HARD



CHOSEN COMPANY



COMPANY COMMANDER
CAPTAIN MATTHEW R. MYER



COMPANY FIRST SERGEANT
1SG SCOTT A. BEESON



CHOSEN FEW



1. PFC STOCKARD
manning the .50 cal after firing 200 rounds at suspected enemy position.

2. PFC GRAPES (left)
for the camera at Camp Blessing after patrol.

3. DOC SWAIMS & DOC Lemon take a break at a security halt enroute back to base IVO Kama.

4. PFC BURTON
instructs HAWK01 to conduct an area reconnaissance to the northeast prior to dismounted patrol to Aranas.

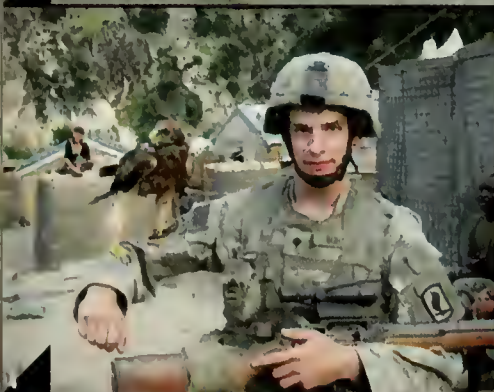
5. SSG SAMAROO,
enjoying his Christmas gifts from the FRG Group at Bella Outpost.

6. SSG ROGERS, SGT Zettl, PFC Brown, PFC Wagintz and PFC Dummond ready to go out on a patrol at FOB Fortress.

7. SSG CAVAZOS AND PFC Griffiths searching a cave for possible ACM fighting positions or caches IVO Narang Valley.

8. SSG TAYLOR TAKES
a breather IVO Narang Valley during Patrol.

9. SSG OTTINDSKI, SSG Simmon, and SSG Tobias pose for the camera after a long patrol through the Narang Valley





CHOSEN FEW



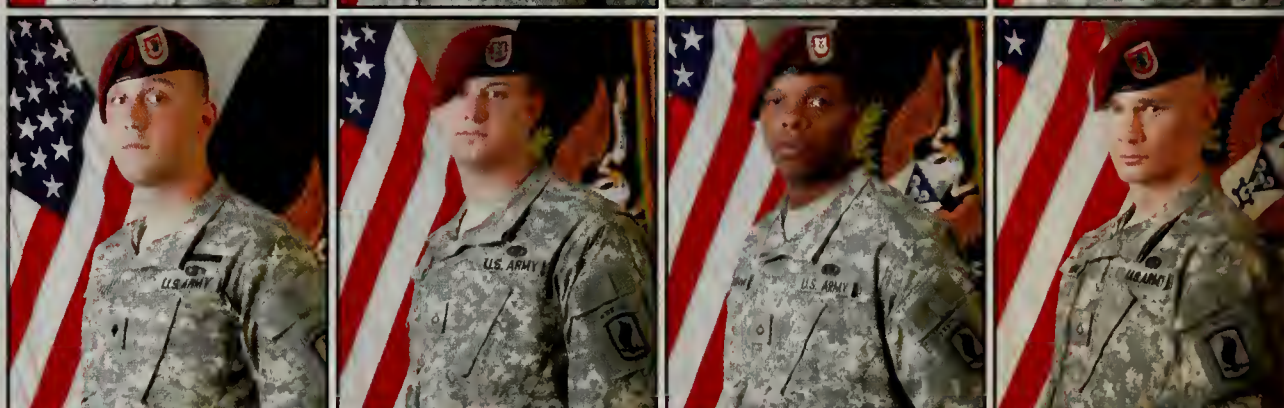
SGT AASS, ERIK
PFC AGUILAR, JOE
SPC ALBERT, JONATHON
SPC ALVEY, STEPHEN



SSG ANDERSON, CLIFTON
SPC BELL, CHARLES
SSG BENTON, JONATHAN
SPC BORDEN, LAQUAN



SPC BOYLE, SEAN
PFC BRADY, JEREMY
PFC BROWN, CEDRIC
PV2 BURNETT, JAMES



PFC BURTON, SHANE
SGT CANALES, JOSE
PFC CARDINALE, TAYLOR
SSG CAVAZOS, ADRIAN



SGT CHAVEZ, HECTOR
SFC CHOAY, CHRISTOPHER
SGT CLINCY, LORENZO
SGT COLLINS, AARON





CHOSEN FEW



SPC CONSTANCIO,
JONATHAN
PFC COONS, KEVIN
PFC CURRAN,
CHRISTOPHER
SGT DELANEY, ADAM



PFC DELORIA, JEDDAH
PFC DENTON, MICHAEL
PFC DERRY, SCOTT
PV2 DIAZ, JUAN



PFC DRUMMOND, RYAN
SSG DZWIK, DAVID
PFC EADS, IAN
PFC ELLER, JASON



PFC FOX, TROY
1LT GEORGE, DEVIN
SGT GILMORE, JARED
SGT GOBBLE, MATTHEW



SSG GONZALES, LUCAS
SGT GONZALEZ, CARLOS
2LT GONZALEZ, ERIC
PFC GRAPES, REID

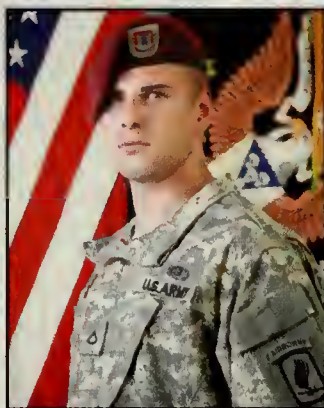
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Photo
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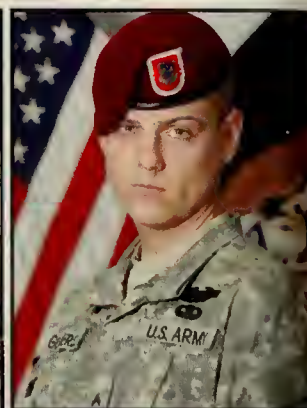
CHOSEN FEW



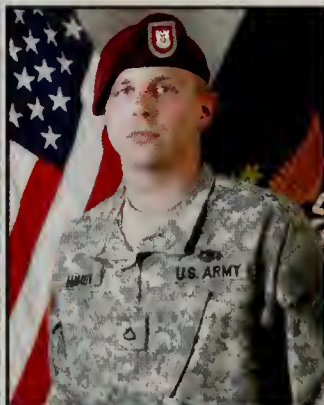
PFC GREEN, GABRIEL
PFC GREEN, JOSHUA
PFC GRIFFITH, HARRY
CPL GUTTERSEN, BRIAN



No
Photo
Available



SPC HALE, URIAH
PFC HAMBY, ADAM
SGT HAMELIN, LAURENT
PFC HANNA, THOMAS



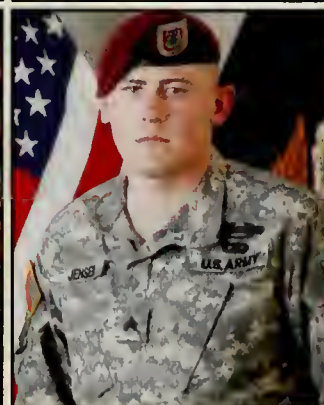
PFC HANSON, TYLER
PFC HARBAUGH, ROBERT
PFC HAYES, JOHN
PFC HERRING, DAVID



SGT HISSONG, BRIAN
PFC HOLMAN, JACOB
SGT HUNT, NATHAN
PFC HUXFORD, SAMUEL

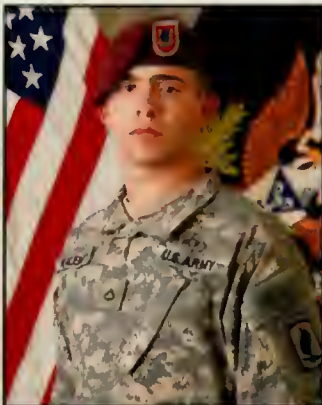


SPC ILES, JEFFERY
PFC INGLEDUE, RICHARD
SGT JENSON, ERIC
SGT JOHNSON, MICHAEL

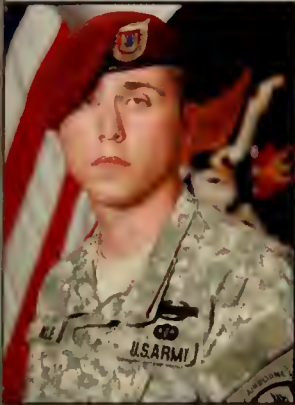




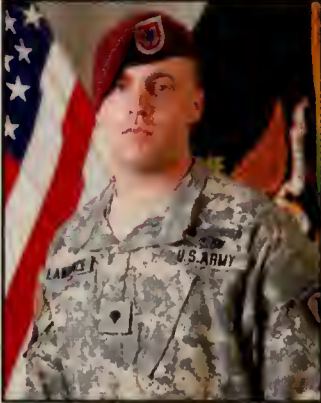
CHOSEN FEW



PFC JOHNSON, STEPHEN
SGT JOHNSTON, ZACCERY
SPC KALENTIS, JUSTIN
PFC KERNS, STEVEN



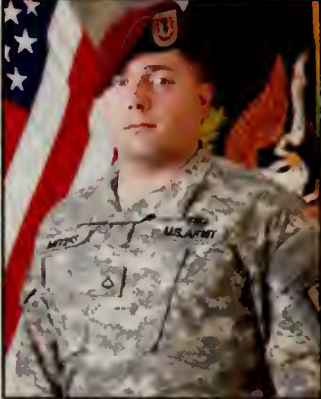
SPC KLEIN, SPENCER
PFC KOCHIEV, DIMITRY
PV2 KRUPA, WILLIAM
SPC KUHLMAN, TYLER



PFC LATULIPPE, JOSEPH
SGT LAWRENCE, MICHAEL
PV2 LISTER, TARIEN
PFC LOCKER, AARON



SGT LOFTON, JACKIE
PFC MCCAIN, MATTHEW
PV2 MCGUFFIE, JOSEPH
PFC MCKAIG, CHRISTOPHER



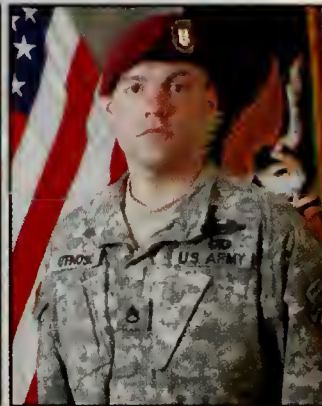
SGT MEYER, DYLAN
PFC MEYERS, JACOB
PFC MOLNAR, JEFFREY
PFC MURRAY, NICHOLAS



CHOSEN FEW



PFC NANTAKUL,
ANANTHACHAI
PV2 OGO, JACKARY
SSG OTFINOSKI, JOHN
PFC PALOMINO, JOSE



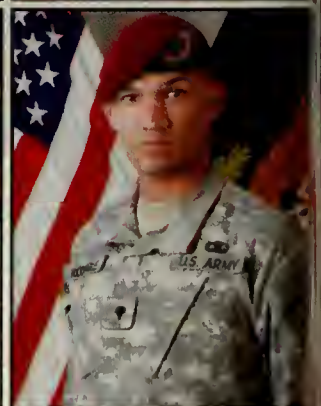
SPC PEERY, PAUL
SSG PEREZ, MILES
SSG PHILLIPS, ERICH
SGT PITTS, RYAN



PFC PLANTIKO,
CHRISTOPHER
SSG QUECK, JESSE
PFC RAUWOLF, GREGG
SGT RELPH, JOHN



SPC REMMEL, ROBERT
PFC RICHARD, TOBY
PV2 RIFANBURG, JARED
SPC RODRIGUEZ,
FRANCISCO



SSG ROGERS, CONOR
SGT RUX, TYLER
SSG SALAZAR, JOASHUA
SSG SAMAROO, SEAN





CHOSEN FEW



SGT SANTIAGO, MICHAEL
SPC SCANTLIN, JEFFERY
2LT SCHICK, ADAM
SPC SCHILLINGS, KAIN



PFC SCHMIDT, JAMES
SGT SHAW, JEFFREY
SSG SILVERNALE, KYLE
SSG SIMMONS, STEPHEN



PVT SONES, JACOB
PFC SOWELLS, JOSHUA
PFC STAFFORD, TYLER
PV2 STENOSKI, SCOTT



PFC STOCKARD, WALTER
SFC STOCKARD, WILLIAM
SSG STODDARD, TRAVIS
PV2 SUTOR, JAMES



SSG TAKES, JAMES
2LT THURMAN,
ALEXANDER
PFC TINNIN, WALACE
PFC URNER, KENNETH

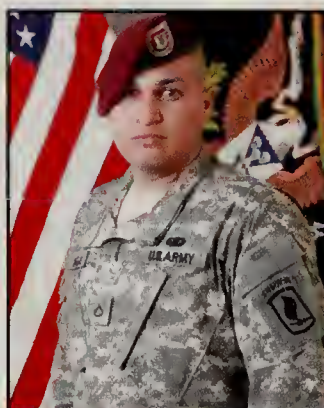
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CHOSEN FEW



PFC VEGA, ANTONIO
PFC WAGNITZ, KEVIN
SPC WALKER, JACOB
PFC WHITE, KYLE



SGT WILLIAMS, ZACHARY
PFC WRIGHT, NATHAN
PVT YOUNG, MATTHEW
SGT YOUNG, MICHAEL



PFC ZEAMER, BENJAMIN
SGT ZETTL, BRANDON
2LT KEETING, JACOB
2LT MEEHAN, RYAN



SPC TUNER, KENNETH





CHOSEN FEW



1. **MSG BENTON OWENS**
after finding a weapons cache IVO
Nanglam

2. **SSG STODDARD**
conducts a foot patrol to an OP in
the beautiful Mountains of Puruns.

3. **CHAPLAIN NELSON,**
SPC Coddington, PFC Lester, SPC
Fleming, and SSG Rizzo at Bella
Outpost during Thanksgiving

4. **PFC SCHWARZ, PFC**
sowells, and PV2 Sones take a
breather after movement up little
Avalanche during C26 dismounted
patrol

5. **SFC CHOAY GAZES TO**
the east, over-watching Bella as
his soldiers mop up the flood
disaster

6. **SPC WALKER, SPC**
Rainey, SPC Phillips, and PFC
Hamby at Bella Outpost

7. **PFC NANTAKUL POSES**
for the camera during a mounted
patrol in Wanat

8. **CHOSEN COMPANY**
skull at Camp Blessing during the
Holidays.

9. **CSM YIMOTO, SSG**
Rizzo, and SGT Valles enjoying a
game of poker on Thanksgiving
Day at Bella Outpost.





CHOSEN FEW



1. SPC JOHNSTON, PFC

Johnson, PFC Cardinale, PFC Turner, PFC Hanna and PFC Diaz taking a break in the center of the perimeter during a foot patrol to Aranas district.

2. 1SG BEESON REUNITES

with his long lost brother at Bella Outpost.

3. PFC DIAZ, PFC

Kalenits, SPC Lancour, and PVT Hegerty taking a bath at Bella outpost before shower was installed.

4. SGT SANTIAGO AIMS

at an unknown position in Kama.

5. SSG CAVAZOS, PFC

Griffiths, PFC Stockard, and Doc are taking a break after a Cordon and Search mission in the Narang Valley.

6. CHOSEN AND ANA

loading up on a CH 47 for a mission IVO Puruns.

7. LT BRDSTROM &

SPC Rainey enjoying the snow

8. ABDULA STOPS TO

take a swig of water during the walk back to base in Kama

9. SSG PHILLIPS, SGT

Gilmore, SGT Chavez, and SPC Baldwin prepare the mortar system for a fire mission at the Ranch House.

10. SSG STODDARD AND

SGT Rux monitor radios during the Rescue and Search mission.

11. SSG TAKES, PFC

Derry, PFC Kalenits, and PFC Hegerty attend bull riding lessons at Bella Outpost.

12. SSG TAKES, PFC

Kalenits, and PFC Derry returning to Bella Outpost after a long walk from Muladesh.

13. SSG STODDARD, SSG

Aass, and SGT Rux pulling radio guard in Puruns.

14. PFC GREEN IS ON

the look out at Bella's OP

15. SGT LOFTON AND SGT

Coddington conducting a sling load operations at Bella Outpost.

16. BELLA OUTPOST

covered in snow.

17. SSG SILVERNALE &

PFC Green preparing to hump the mule pack to Bella's

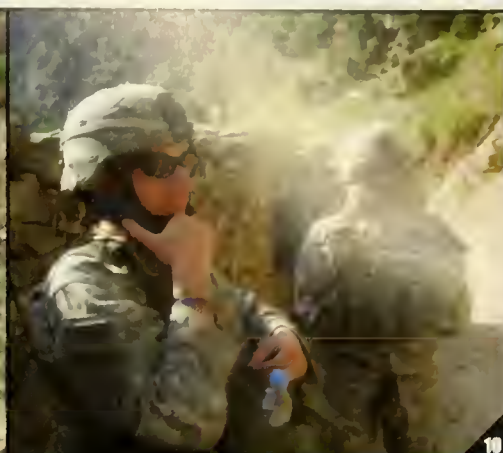
18. SSG TAKES AND PFC

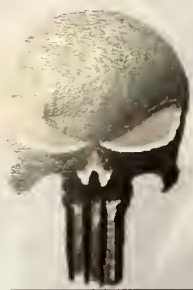
Derry on mounted patrol. PFC Derry is on text here. Place caption text here.





CHOSEN FEW





CHOSEN FEW



1. SGT PITTS AND SPC

Borden prepare for Operation Rock Avalanche at FOB Blessing.

2. SSG STODDARD STOPS

and takes a breather after walking up to Bella OP.

3. SPC SCHWARZ AND

SGT Pitts take a lunch break after a long dismounted patrol.

4. SGT WISE ON PATROL

5. SSG GARCIA POSES

for the camera during a dismounted patrol.

6. SGT GONZALEZ, SPC

Delario, and ANA after a patrol from Bella to the Ranch House.

7. I FEEL SO TALL ON

top of these mountains. SFC Stockard IVO Ranch House.

8. SGT AASS POSES for

the camera on OBJ TSAM in the Shuryak during Rock Avalanche.

9. CLOSING OF THE

Ranch House...Burn Baby Burn!

10. SSG SILVERNALE

poses for the camera during a village meeting

11. CPT MERCIER AIMS

at a suspicious looking area in the fields of Nangalam.

12. PFC GRAPES AT

Bella Outpost enjoying a nice cold cut sandwich

13. DDC MCMAIN TAKING

a glance at the mountains.

14. CPT FERRARA AND

SGT Gilmore smile as they gaze at the burning of the Ranch House.

15. SSG DWIZK AND KIDS

during a patrol south of Blessing.

16. LT GEORGE AKA

Devin the Dude watches over his platoon as they prepare for Rock Avalanche at FOB Blessing.

17. 3RD PLATOON/ANA

prepare for mission in Destined AO.

18. SPC LANCOUR

taking the hill enroute to Ataza.





CHOSEN FEW





CHOSEN FEW



1. SSG CAVAZOS, PFC

Griffiths, PFC Stockard, SPC Constancio, SGT Lawrence, and PFC Plantiko enjoying Thanksgiving Dinner at FOB Fortress.

2. LT GONZALEZ

wondering if he can call home on the little green box on patrol around the Wanat area.

3. CHOSEN COMPANY

headquarters section enjoying some Thanksgiving dinner at Camp Blessing.

4. SGT HAMELIN AND PFC

Burnett at Camp Joyce.

5. PFC WRIGHT CATCHES

a breather after a hard day of preparation for Rock Avalanche at FOB Blessing.

6. SOLDIERS OF BELLA

Outpost take cover from small arms fire.

7. CPT MEYER SHARES

his last pieces of candy with the kids around the wagul area.

8. SFC HORVAL AND SSG

Rogers.

9. SSG SAMARDD AND

SGT Gobble cooking dinner at Bella.

10. SSG TOBIAS AND

Simmons.

11. 3RD PLATOON

12. CHOSEN COMPANY

soldiers enjoying Thanksgiving Dinner.

13. SFC STOCKARD, SSG

Stoddard, and SSG Anderson pose in front of Chosen Company CP at Camp Blessing.

14. BOB DOES HEAD

check for flea's on SPC Hovater at Bella OP.

15. SPC SHILLING, PFC

White, SPC Langevin, and PFC Huxford wait on aircraft for Rock Avalanche at FOB Blessing.

16. SPC HOLMAN

17. MARY AND JANE

waiting for the jury on Thanksgiving Day.

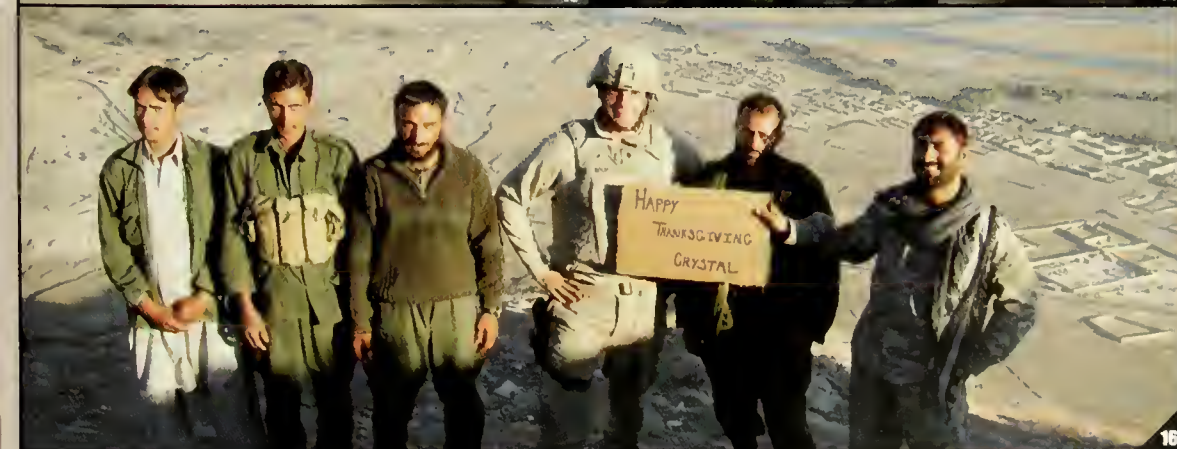
18. BOBO CONDUCTS

over-watch from Bella OP.





CHOSEN FEW





CHOSEN FEW



1. PFC MCCAIN, SGT

Alvey, SPC Peery, and PFC Plantiko.

2. SSG SIMMONS

3. SGT ALVEY, PFC

Plantiko, SPC Waganitz, PFC Drummond, SGT Zettle, SPC Peery, PFC McCain, and PFC Brown

4. SGT CAVASOS,

Chowkay Valley Patrol.

5. 1LT SCHICK, IVO

Sarkani District patrol.

6. SPC PEERY, SGT

Alvey, PFC McCain and PFC Plantiko.

7. SGT ZETTLE, PFC

Brown, SPTC Waganitz, PFC Drummond. FOB Fortress.

8. SPC STOCKARD

9. SPC KUHLMAN

10. SPC LOCKER

11. PFC MCCAIN, SGT

Alvey, SPC Peery, PFC Brown, PFC Plantiko, SSG Rogers, PFC Drummond, SFC Horval, SPC Waganitz, SGT Zettle.

12. SPC HOLMAN.

13. SPC HOLMAN, SPC

Kuhlman, SSG Taylor, PFC Vega, SFC Horval, PFC Zeamer, SPC Locker, and PFC Brady.

14. SSG SIMMONS, SGT

Young, SGT Cavasos, SPC Constancio, SPC Stockard, PFC Green, SPC Griffith, PFC Palomino, and PFC Sutor.

15. LT SCHICK, SSG

Upp, and SFC Horval.

16. PFC AGUILLAR, SFC

Horval, SPC Holman, SSG Otfinoski, SGT Hamelin, SGT Jensen, and SSG Simmons

17. MORTAR IMPACT

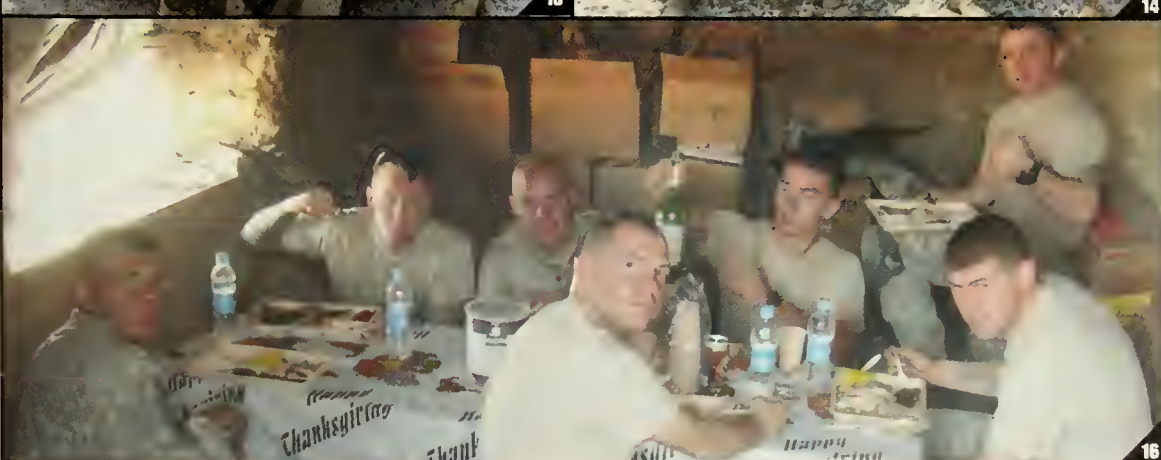
18. SGT JENSEN AND

PFC Meyers.





CHOSEN FEW





CHOSEN FEW



1. PFC ZEAMER, SPC

Locker, and PFC Brady. Operation Rock Avalanche.

2. SSG TAYLOR

3. SGT ALVEY AND SGT

Zettle.

4. SGT YOUNG, SSG

Simmons, and SGT Cavasos.

5. SGT ALVEY

6. SPC PEERY, SGT

Alvey and PFC McCain.

7. SPC GRIFFITH, PFC

Sutor, SGT Cavasos and SPC Stockard.

8. SGT CAVASOS.

Chowkay Valley Patrol.

9. PFC BROWN

10. SPC WAGANITZ, PFC

Brown and PFC Drummond.

11. SGT LAWRENCE, SPC

Holman, SPC Kuhlman, PFC Vega, PFC Brady, SPC Locker, PFC Zeamer, and SSG Taylor. FOB Fortress.

12. DONKEY TRAIN TO

OP 1 with Thanksgiving Dinner.

13. PFC SUTOR AND PFC

Palomino

14. SPC BOYLE

15. PFC VEGA, SPC

Kuhlman and SPC Holman.

16. PFC AGUILLAR AT

FOB Fortress Range.

17. PFC PALOMINO

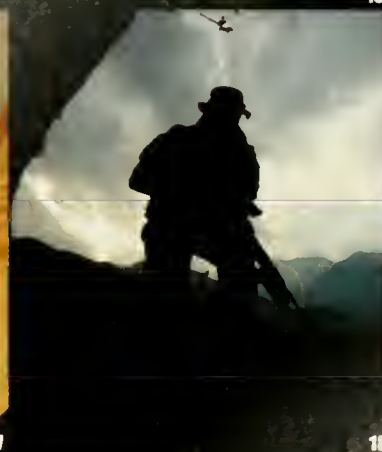
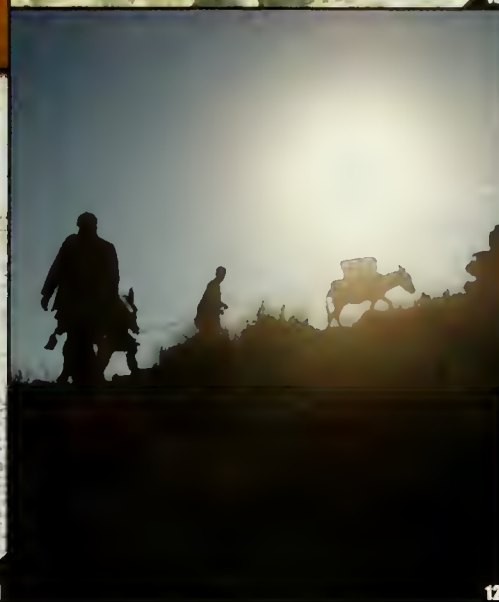
PFC Sutor, and SGT Young

18. PFC ZEAMER





CHOSEN FEW





CHOSEN FEW



1. CHOSEN COMPANY

2PLT NCO's pose for the camera at Camp Joyce.

2. MORTARS DURING

a fire mission at Camp Blessing.

3. CPT MYER HOLDS

up flag with village elders

4. 1LT GONZALEZ

prepares for caters analysis from a incoming round.

5. SGT AASS HANDING

out some Propaganda supporting Coalition Forces.

6. 2 PLT TEAM

leader's pose for the camera before Operation Rock Tempest.

7. SSG STODDARD &

SGT AASS pose for the camera during a mounted patrol.

8. CIB AND CAB AWARDS;

SSG Queck pins PVT Shick

9. OFFICER LEADERSHIP

CPT Meyers, 1LT Gonazale, LT Bostrom, and LT George.

10. 1SG DEESON AND

SFC Stockard take a break during a patrol halt in the village of Senji.

11. 2ND PLT PREPARES

for Operation Rock Tempest.

12. SPC NANTAKAUL

and PVT Stenoski firing mortars during a fire mission.

13. MORTARS FIRING

position during Operation Rock Tempest.

14. SSG QUECK POSE'S

for the camera during Operation Rock Tempest.

15. SSG DELANY, SPC

Lister, SPC Scantlin, and SPC Hovater.

16. SSG BENTON, SSG

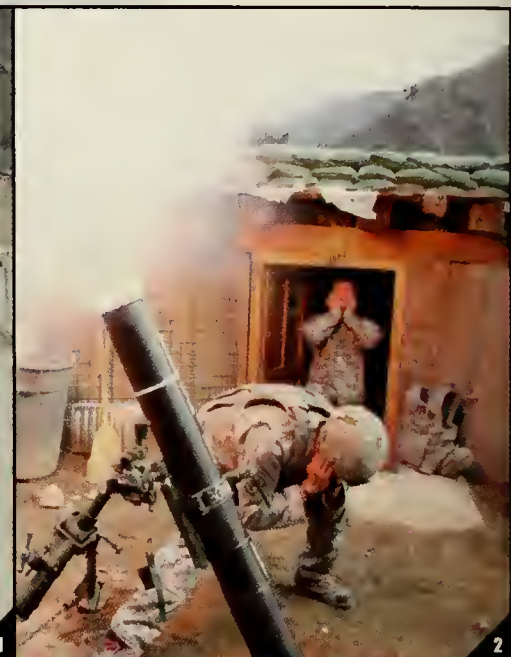
Delany, SPC Grapes, SGT Walker, SPC Lister, SPC Hovater, and SPC Scantlin.

17. SPC NANTAKUL

pose for the camera.

18. SFC KAHLER POSES

for the camera; IVO Chapadarah District Center





CHOSEN FEW



10



11



13



14



15



16



17



18



CHOSEN FEW



1. SPC JOHNSON
pulling security

2. SPC DENTON FIRES
some mortar rounds during training event.

3. MORTAR FIRING
position around the village of Kandy.

4. SSG PHILLIPS
conducts a fire mission at FOB Blessing.

5. 1LT THURMAN POSES
for the camera with an ASG National.

6. SPC HANNA OPENS
the door to get some fresh air during a mounted patrol around the Wodi Garam village.

7. PFC EADS HANGS
mortar rounds during a mortar training event.

8. MORTAR MEN CONDUCT
a fire mission.

9. DOC KADERLI GIVES
medical attention to local national

10. SPC JOHNSON
takes a break during a dismounted patrol around the Qandaro village.

11. SGT RUX, SPC
Turner, and SPC Rauwolf take a break after a patrol around the Kandigal.

12. SGT CHAVEZ TAKES
a break during a patrol halt around the village of Saydur.

13. SPC JOHNSON ALONG
with PFC Rifanburg prepare dinner for the guys at Michigan.

14. 1LT THURMAN AND
Omid discuss some issues with the locals around the Nangalam area.

15. SSG SALAZAR POSES
for the camera during a patrol.

16. SGT JOHNSTON
poses for the camera in the village of Wodi Gerum during dismounted patrol.

17. GENERAL MCNEAL
pins SPC Wright and soldiers during CIB and CAB awards day at FOB Bella outpost.

18. MORTAR MEN
conduct a fire mission.





CHOSEN FEW



10



12



13



14



15



16



17



18



CHOSEN FEW



1. SSG STODDARD &

SPC Nantakul wait outside while THT conduct their tactical questioning during Rock Penetrator.

2. SPC RODRIGUEZ

takes a knee during a short halt in route to OBJ Genova.

3. 1SG BEESON WAITS

for exfil aircraft to arrive in the center of the perimeter.

4. SGT AASS FINALLY

gets his turn in the rest plan and takes the opportunity to catch some shut eye.

5. CHOSEN 6

over-watches the objective area during Operation Rock Tempest.

6. SPC HOVATER AND

Eads enjoy a morning snack shortly after stand-to.

7. SSG PHILLIPS,

SSG Stoddard, SGT Lofton, SSG Queck and SGT Gilmore ready to move out.

8. SPC NANTAKUL

9. 3RD PLT EXFILS THE

objective area during Rock Penetrator.

10. SGT AASS TAKING

the hill in order to get back to the Company Command Post.

11. SSG BENTON OVER-

looks his squad's positions and contemplates where to adjust.

12. SPC NANTAKUL

conducts a radio check with the company command post while on OBJ Geneva.

13. SSG STODDARD

takes a breather in the center of the perimeter upon return from OBJ Genova

14. SSG STODDARD

pauses to wait for THT in route to Objective Genova.

15. SPC WALKER &

SPC Scantlin taking a break in their fighting positions shortly after stand-to during Operation Rock Penetrator.

16. CPT MYER & 1SG

Beeson chat with Farshad (interpreter) while they wait for the local elders to arrive.

17. 1ST LT MORTARMEN

leading session.

18. 1ST LT MORTARMEN &

SGT AASS firing the 120mm IED. (Mortarmen head).





CHOSEN FEW





COMPANY COMMANDER
CPT MICHAEL JACKSON



COMPANY COMMANDER
CPT CHRISTOPHER ROWE



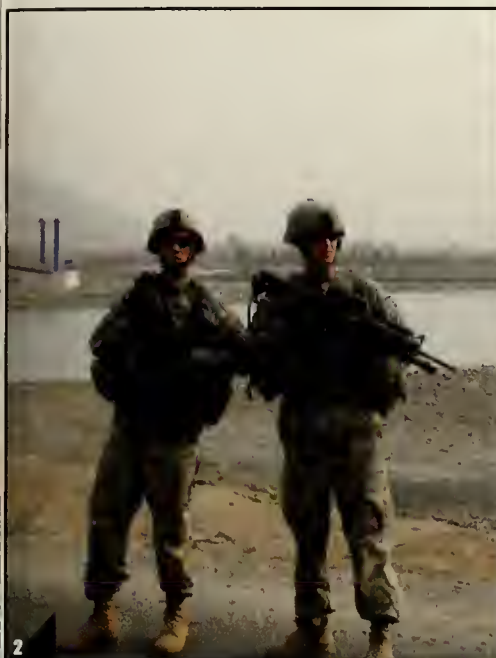
COMPANY FIRST SERGEANT
1SG MITCHELL RUCKER



COMPANY FIRST SERGEANT
1SG STEPHEN ZALESKI



DESTINED



1. PFC HENRY SHOWS his excitement with SSG Kemp during a patrol down the Pech River Road.
2. PFC LYNCH - Kunar River
3. PFC POOLE, SGT Gilmore, and PFC Bray catch a break in some shade.
4. PFC GIBBS GIVING PFC Lynch a class on the T.O.W. Missile.
5. PFC LYNCH GETTING ready to Hang and Fire a 120mm Mortar.
6. PFC STRUNK, SGT Ochoa, and SGT Stamper stand next to a .50 caliber gun truck at VPB Able Main.
7. SGT CHARLES
8. SPC JACKSON & SPC Lopez
9. SPC OROZCO PULLING security in the heat.



DESTINED



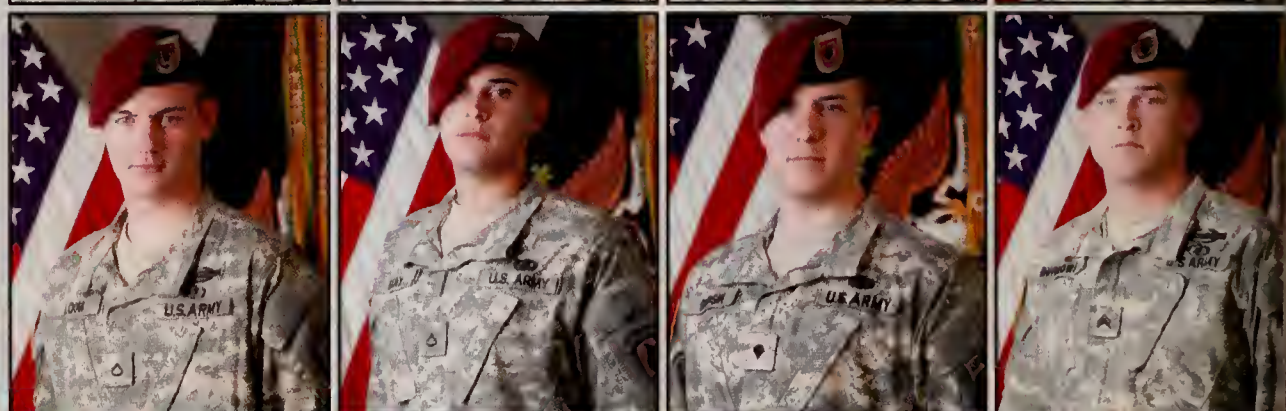
PFC AGRE, BENJAMIN
PFC ALLBRITTON,
JONATHAN
SFC ANDERSON, ROBERT
PFC AYRES, JAMES



PFC BACKHAUS, DANIEL
SPC BAKE, BRIAN
PFC BASS, JOE
SPC BEACHNAW, LUCAS



PFC BLOOM, JUSTIN
PFC BRAY, JEREMY
SPC BURGIN, DEREK
SGT BURROWS, BRUCE



PFC BUTTS, DEVIN
SPC CARDUCCI, NICHOLAS
SGT CHARLES, ROBERT
PFC CHRISTMAN, ANDRE



SPC COLLAZO, JULIO
SPC COTE, DANIEL
PFC CRIVELLO, JUSTIN
2LT CUMMINGS, MICHAEL





DESTINED



PFC CYRUS, WESLEY
PFC DAVIS, AARON
SGT DAVIS, JOHN
SSGT DOBBS, ANDREW



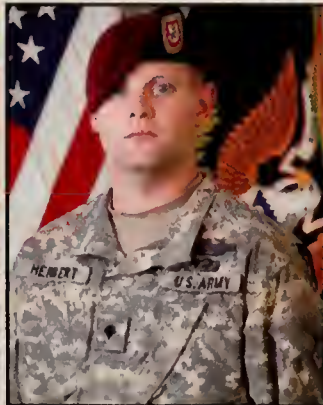
2LT DRAKE, PETER
SPC DUMAS, ADAM
SGT FALLS, BRADLEY
SPC FAREWELL,
JOHNATHON



SPC GAY, RILEY
SPC GEOPFERT, FRANKLIN
SSG GEORGE, JASON
PV2 GIBBS, GREGORY



SGT GILMORE, CHRIS
SGT GRIMM, JUSTIN
PFC HANEY, JUSTIN
1LT HARRISON, JOSHUA



SSG HEDRICK, MAX
SPC HERBERT, JUSTIN
1LT HOKANSON, TROY
PFC HOLLISTER, CORBY



DESTINED



SFC HOLT, GEOFFREY
SGT HOOKER, DAVID
PFC HUDSON, DANIEL
PFC JACKSON, CHARLES



SGT JOHNSTON, ERIC
SPC JORDAN, WILLIAM
SSG KEMP, GREGORY
PFC KING, CLAYTON



SPC LILLEY, RANDALL
SGT LLOYD, DEREK
SPC LOPEZ, MICHAEL
SPC LUTZ, JEREMIE



PFC LYNCH, DANIEL
PFC MAK, TUNG
SGT MAY, MATTHEW
PV2 MCCLINTON, JACOB



SPC MCCRAY, DERENA
1LT MCPHEE, JASON
SGT MOHR, CHAD
SPC MUENZEL, ROBERT

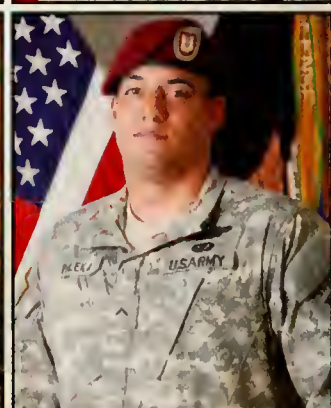




DESTINED



SPC MURPHREE, JESSE
PFC NELSON, TYLER
SPC OAKES, JOSEPH
PFC O'BRIENT, PATRICK



SGT OCHOA, JOSHUA
SPC OROZCO, NICHOLAS
PFC PALEKA, SHANE
SPC PATTERSON, BRADLY



PFC PEREZ, MARK
SGT POLIKOLSKY, NIKOLAI
PFC POOLE, DAVID
PFC RAPRAGER, DUSTIN



SFC ROBERTS, MARVIN
PFC ROCKEY, TYLER
SGT SCHULTZ, BRIAN
PVT SEXTON, MATTHEW



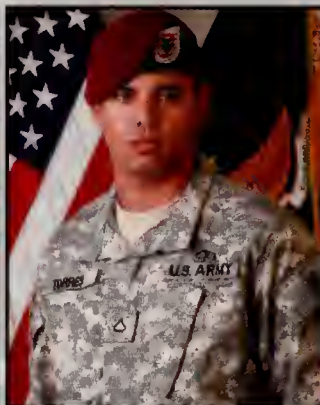
PFC SHERMAN, MARCUS
PFC STRUNK, JON
PFC THOMPSON, DAVID
SPC THOMPSON, JEREMIAH



DESTINED



SGT TOBIAS, CHRISTOPHER
PFC TORRES, MATTHEW
PFC VALCOURT, JEAN
SSG WILLIAMS, ROBERT

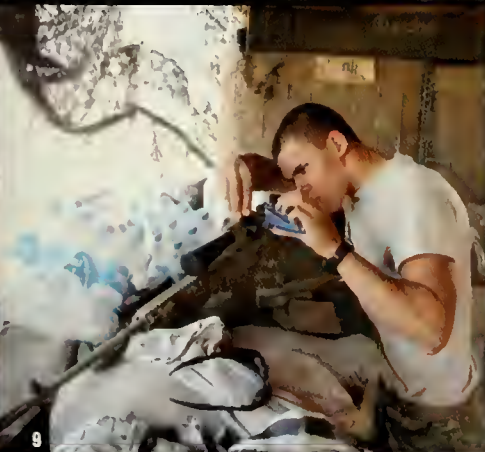


2LT NIHILL, MATTHEW





DESTINED



1. SPC LINVILLE, SPC Talley, SGT Jones, and SPC King getting ready to come down from the wildcat range

2. SGT JONES giving the thumbs up on top of D Co OP 1

3. SGT JONES, SGT Jones, SSG Taylor spotting for SPC Talley on the Barret .50 cal

4. CHANGE OF Command.

5. SGT SEIFERT & SPC Linville on movement back to Serey VPB

6. COMING DOWN the mountain, SPC Linville, SPC Jones, SSG Taylor and SFC Horval.

7. LTC OSTLUND & CPT Jackson during Destined Change of Command.

8. CHANGE OF Command.

9. PFC BRUSASCNETTI slipping scope rings on the M-14 after zeroing at the wildcat range.



DESTINED



1. CHRISTMAS MORNING
at the Seray Vehicle Patrol Base.
2. SPC COLAZZO

3. VIEW FROM OP1
FOB Fortress.
4. 3RD PLT EXAMINING
a LAW, Chowkay.

5. SPC BRAY & SPC
Lancourt

6. SPC BUTTS, SGT
Hooker, SPC Davis, and SPC
Bloom spread their Christmas Joy.

7. 1LT MURAWSKI WITH
Jimmy the ETT terp, showing the
ANA how to handle a hand
grenade.

8. SPC JACKSON &
SPC Lopez

9. SSG DOBBS, PFC
Poole, PFC Gibbs, SGT lilley, SPC
Gay, and SPC Hudson relaxing in
the motor pool before a mission.

10. KUNAR RIVER

11. BG VOTEL VISIT TO
FOB Fortress, Awards Ceremony;
CIB, CAB, CMB

12. LT MORGAN BRINGING
the M240B to a fighting position in
the Badel Valley.

13. CPT JACKSON AND
SGT Falls, Re-enlistment.

14. LT MORGAN, SGT
Thompson, and SSG George
conducting a meet and greet in the
village of BarNarang.

15. OPERATION DESTINED
STRIKE 23; LT Drake on radio,
CPT Jackson to his back left on
HLZ Bitberger Chowkay.

16. SGT GILMORE, SPC
Johnston, PFC Valcourt, SPC
Patterson, LT Morgan, SGT Iles,
SSG George, and SPC Hjelmstad
prepping for mission in FOB
Fortress motor pool.

17. SPC BLACKHAUS

18. SGT BURGEN





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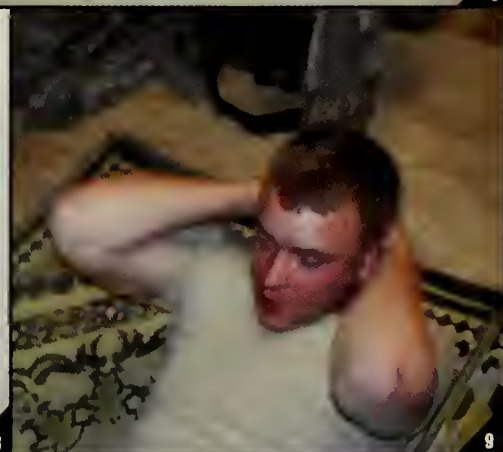




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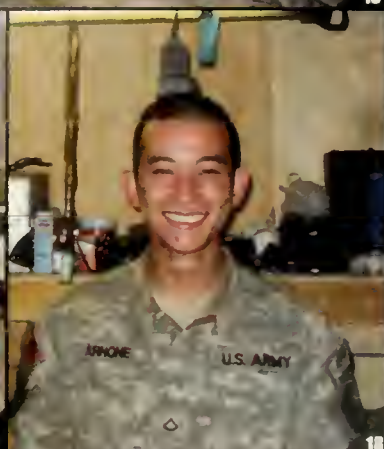


1. **1SG RUCKER** DURING Destined Seige.
2. **PFC HANEY** SHOWS off his new army issued BCG glasses.
3. **SOLDIERS FROM 1ST** PLT play a game of football between guard shifts at VPB Hoanker-Miracle.
4. **SSG CHARO** MONITERS the radio during a mortar attack on VPB Able Main.
5. **FOB FORTRESS**
6. **SOLDIERS FROM 1ST** platoon enjoy the ice cold water of the Pech River as they do a dismounted patrol.
7. **SGT HOOKER** ENJOYS a tasty treat during a patrol in Pech River Valley.
8. **CH 47**
9. **DOC JORDAN** TRIES to stay in shape by doing some sit-ups.
10. **SPC CHRISTMAN** shows his holiday spirit.
11. **LT MCPHEE**
12. **DURING A FIRE** fight the ITAS Gunner for 1st PLT observes a bomb drop on an enemy fighting position.
13. **1ST PLT CONDUCTS** TCP operations in the Pech River Valley to ensure the ACM do not try and use the road to transport supplies.
14. **THANKSGIVING @** FORTRESS
15. **SPC COLLAZO AND** PFC Valcourt waiting to fire a LAW.
16. **FORMATION**
17. **SFC ROBERTS**
18. **PFC ARMONE**





DESTINED





DESTINED



1. **SPC OAKES, SGT Charles, SPC Jackson, and SPC Shelke** on patrol.
2. **SGT LILLEY AND SPC McClinton** on patrol.
3. **SPC LYNCH BEHIND** an M240B
4. **SGT TOBIAS AND SPC Thompson** getting promoted.
5. **SPC ARNONE AND SPC Scott** at the Seray VPB
6. **DESTINED COMPANY** 4th Platoon.
7. **SPC AYERS** koalfying in Grafenwhoer, Germany.
8. **SPC HJELMSTAD** "DOC" treats local villagers from Qualawana village while on patrol.
9. **PVT SEXTON** posing behind a MK19
10. **1LT HOKANSON** while on patrol with 3rd platoon in Konar Province.
11. **SGT THOMPSON & SPC Lynch** take a break from searching vehicles while conductin TCP operations.
12. **"DOC" BURGIN** treating a girl during a MEDCAP.
13. **SGT LOPEZ** taking a break on patrol.
14. **1LT MCPHEE** pulling security on patrol.
15. **DESTINED COMPANY** change of command ceremony.
16. **PFC GIBBS & SPC Collazo** conducting training with their ANA counterparts at FOB Fortress.
17. **C93 REFLECTS ON** Soviet IDF TTP's
18. **1LT HOKANSON** at the Chowkay District Center.





DESTINED





DESTINED



1. **SPC HJELMSTAD & PVT Sexton** strike a pose for the camera.

2. **SPC JACKSON AND SPC Lopez** on the FOB

3. **PFC VALCOURT** posing with the ANP.

4. **SGT CHEEK DURING** Operation Destined Seige

5. **SSG DOBBS**

6. **SPC HOLLISTER**

smiling for the camera

7. **SPC BACKHAUS**

with the M249 SAW on patrol.

8. **SPC ROBERTS DURING**

Destined change of command ceremony.

9. **SSG CHARO AND SPC**

Cote enjoying some time off

10. **SGT CHARLES AND**

BG Votel.

11. **CHRISTMAS @**

Seray.

12. **SPC ALLBRITON AND**

SPC Hollister getting ready for a mission.

13. **SPC BRAY, SPC**

Valcourt, CPT Jackson, and BG

Votel during the Seray CIB

Ceremony.

14. **SPC HOLLISTER**

pulling security on a mission.

15. **SGT GILMORE**

entertaining a group of children.

16. **3rd PLATOON**

Destined Co. enjoying Thanksgiving dinner.

17. **SPC COLLAZO AND**

BG Votel during the Seray CIB Ceremony.

18. **SGT LILLEY AND**

SGT Charles posing for the camera.





DESTINED



FUSION COMPANY



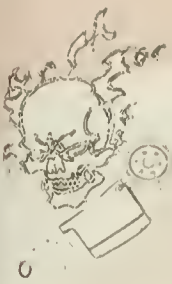
COMPANY COMMANDER
CPT JOHN THYNG



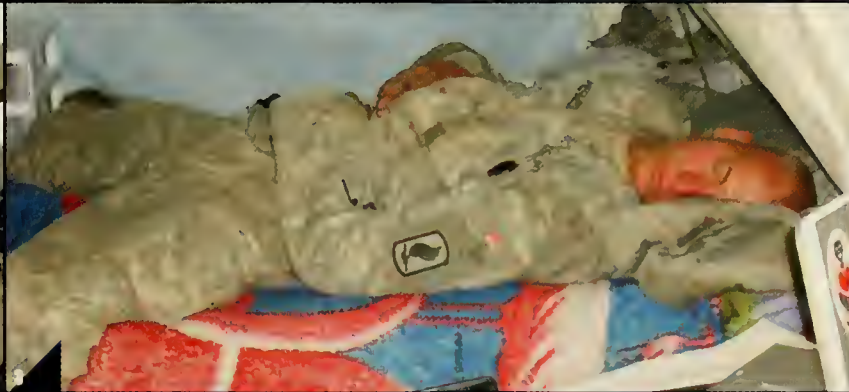
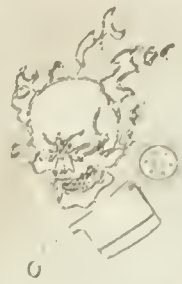
COMPANY COMMANDER
CPT JOHN JIMENEZ



COMPANY FIRST SERGEANT
1SG CHRISTOPHER WHITEN



FUSION



1. SGT RODRIGUEZ

2. SGT MECUM AND
SPC Wagner

3. PFC ATWOOD

4. HEADLINE HERE

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caption for photo

5. SPC MECUM

6. FLOOD AT
JAF

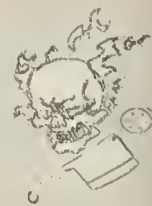
7. JAF

8. LT ROSARIO AND
PV2 Vega.

9. SGT CASILLAS



FUSION



PFC ADAMS, ORA
SSG ADAMS, STEVEN
SPC ANDERSON, KEVIN
SPC AVINA, ERIC



SSG BALTAZAR, MIGUEL
SGT BEGAY, BYRON
SGT BELANGER, DAMON
SPC BENOVA, IVAYLO



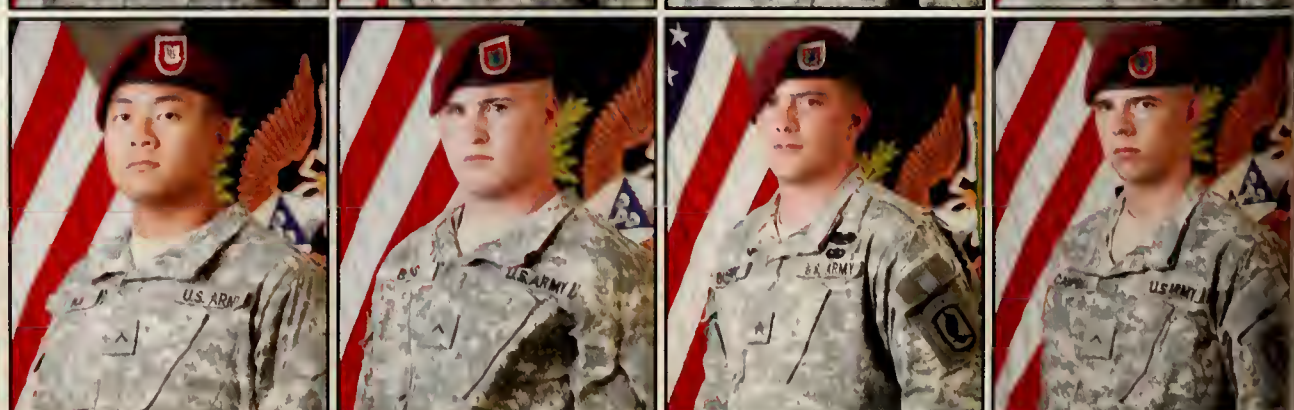
PV2 BONILLA, EMMANUEL
PVT BOYD, JUSTIN
SPC BREELAND, STEVEN
SSG BRICKER, SCOTT



SGT BRIGHT-DAVIES,
DESMOND
PFC BROWN, JASON
PV2 BRUNO, CARMELI
PV2 BRYANT, DEWAYNE



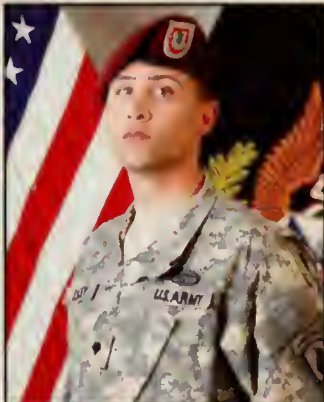
PV2 BUI, VU
PV2 BURNS, TIMOTHY
SGT BUSHART,
CHRISTOPHER
PV2 CAMPBELL, RYAN



FUSION



SGT CASILLAS, BENJAMIN
PFC CATHEY, RYAN
SSG CHAPMAN, RICHARD
SSG CLARK, LAWRENCE



SGT COHEN, ADHAE
PV2 CORTESI, ANTHONY
SPC COX, JAMES
SPC DANLEY, MICHAEL



PFC DAVIS, ANDREW
2LT DEMARCO, ANTHONY
PV2 DENNIS, DONALD
PVT DOMINGUEZ,
KIMBERLY



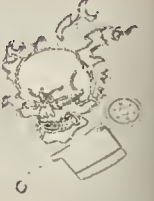
SGT DOMINGUEZ, ROBERT
SPC DOMINY, KRISTOPHER
SPC DUNCAN, AARON
SPC EDWARDS, DENNIS



SPC EMPAYNADO, JEDGAIL
PV2 ERICKSON, JOSHUA
SGT ESCOBAR, EMILIO
PFC FINKS, RAY

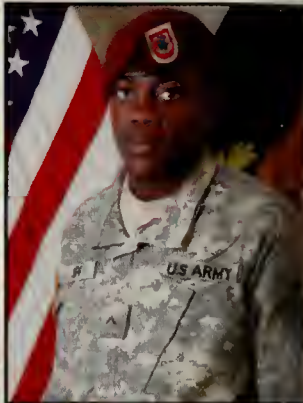


FUSION



2LT FORONDA, JONATHAN
PV2 FORTNEY, WESLEY
SSG FRIEND, ZACKERY
PV2 FRIPP, MARK

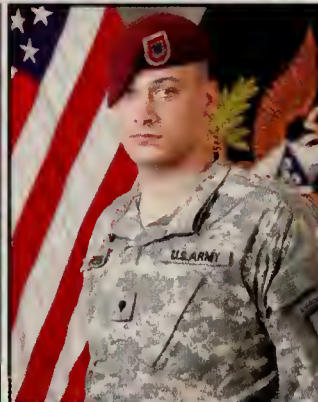
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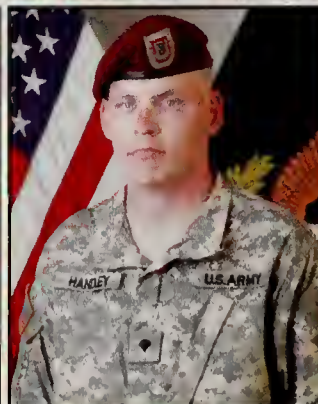
PFC FRUTOSVALDEZ,
ELIZABETH
SPC GABRIEL, JAYSON
SGT GILLILAND, JASON
SGT GONZALEZ, EUGENIO



SSG GONZALEZ, JOHN
SPC GREEN, STEPHEN
PFC GREENE, CAMERON
PV2 GREENLEE, JEFFREY

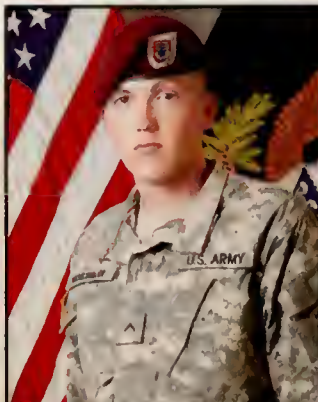


SGT GROSS, DAVID
SPC HANDLEY, JOHN
SPC HASSELL, JONATHAN
SGT HAWTHORNE, DANTE



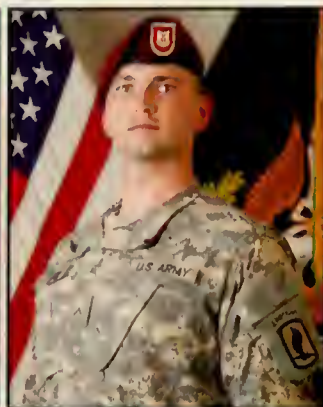
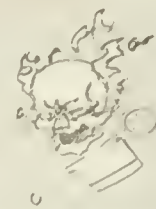
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PV2 HECKELSMILLER,
GRANT
SPC HERNANDEZ,
FRANCISCO
PFC HERNESS, SPENCER
SPC HODGE, MARK

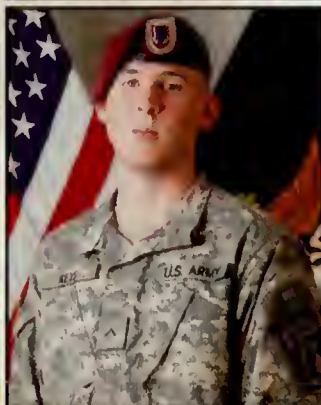




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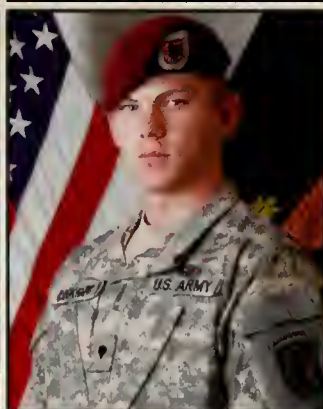
PFC HODGKISS, JACOB
PV2 HOPKINS, JOSHUA
PV2 HOUSE, ADAM
PV2 JONES, IAN



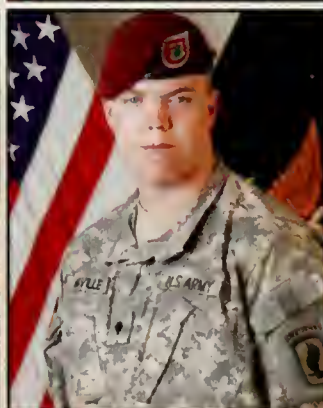
PV2 KAMARA, IBRAHIM
PV2 KEYS, BAXTER
SPC KIRCHNER, WILLIAM
SPC KLIMESH, JASON



SPC KRUEGER, NICHOLAS
PFC LACKELY, CHARLES
PVT LAMB, JUSTIN
SPC LARKIN, DWAYNE



PVT LAYTON, JASON
PV2 LEESEBERG, BENJAMIN
SPC LOCKHART, PAUL
SFC LOETZ, MICHAEL



SPC LOPEZ, JOSE
PV2 MANN, JASON
SPC MAVILLE, JASON
SPC MCCLARITY, XRISTIAN



FUSION



SPC MCCORMICK,
DEMARIO
PFC MECUM, BRANDON
PFC MEREDITH, CAMERON
SSG MILLER, JOSEPH



SSG MONTELL, MATTHEW
PV2 MOOMAW, AARON
SPC MOORE, JESSE
SSG MORRIS, TIMOTHY



SGT MOTEN, SHARITA
SPC NAVA, NOE
SFC NIMS, DAVID
SPC ONEAL, JOHN

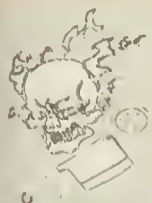


PFC PADIONG, MICHAEL
SPC PAYTON, MATTHEW
SFC PEARSON, TIM
SSG PENA, RONALD

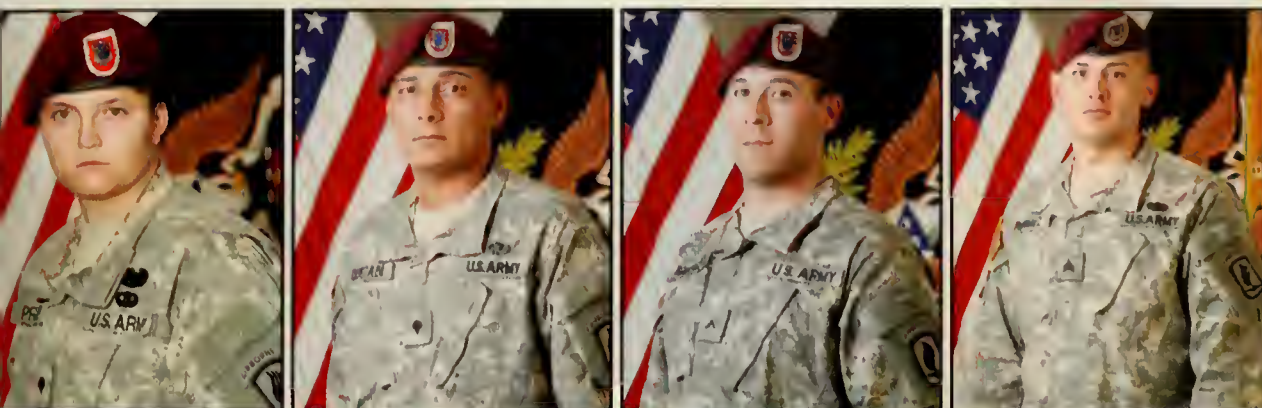
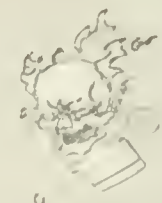


PV2 PEREZ, CESAR
SPC PETERSON, JEREMIAH
SPC PETERSON, ROBERT
SPC PILAT, NICHOLAS





FUSION



PFC PROUD, REBECCA
SGT QUEZADA, JOSEPH
PV2 RAMIREZ, JESSE
SGT RAMIREZ, JACOB



SPC RAMIREZ, JAMIE
SGT RIGEL, ANDREW
CW2 RODRIGUEZ, SAMMY
SGT ROSARIO, VICENTE



PV2 ROSS, VERNELL
SPC SABLAN, GEORGE
SSG SALDARINI, EDMUND
PFC SCHMIDT, BRIAN



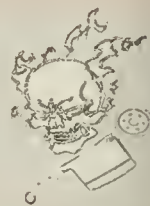
SGT SMITH, JOSEPH
PV2 SPARROW, DANIEL
SGT STARR, BARTIC
SGT STURDY, JAMES



PFC SULICK, MICHAEL
PFC THOMPSON, DAVID
PV2 TIMLIN, SHAUN
PV2 TOWNSEND, RYAN



FUSION



SPC UNDERWOOD, THOMAS
SGT VALAI, PETERO
PV2 VALENZUELA, JAMES
2LT VAN LEAR, ADAM



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Photo
Available

PV2 VEGA, MANUEL
SGT VELAZQUEZ, JUAN
SPC WAGNER, JACLYN
PV2 WEBB, NATHAN



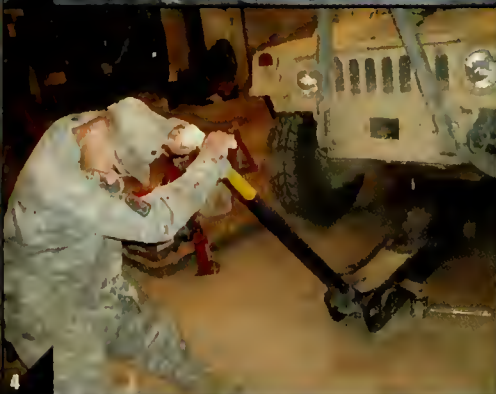
SSG WEMHOFF, CORY
SPC WHEELER, CRAIG
SGT WILLIAMS, KIETH
SPC WILSON, JESSE



1LT ARAMBULA, TROY



FUSION



1. SPC GONZALEZ making a snow angel.

2. TROOP 1 Vehicle.

3. SGT GONZALEZ being presented an ARCOM with "V" Device

4. SPC RAMIREZ jacking up an uparmored truck.

5. PFC ERICKSON working late to keep the trucks on the road.

6. CPT THYNG & 1SG Whiten waiting on the BSB convoy to eventually show up at FOB Fenty.

7. PFC BRUNO painting Cat on a Rock.

8. SPC Empaynado, SPC Gabriel, and SPC Mecum building a storage shed.

9. THE CAMP WRIGHT maintenance team walking up to Observation Post Shiloh for PT

FUSION

1. SSG Sالداريني,

SGT Quezada, PV2 Bruno, PV2 Dominguez, SPC Underwood, SPC Breeland, SGT Gilliland in Motor Pool.

2. PV2 VEGA AND SPC Ruiz.

3. HUMVV

4. SGT BORK AND PFC

Dollins, Stryker 9 element

5. SGT RIGEL, GIVING discipline to a soldier

6. DISTRO ON BREAK

7. PV2 FRUTOS & SPC

Wagner.

8. SPC PADIONG

Sitting in ASV

9. SPC LAYTON

Resting after mission.

10. CPT THYNG & PFC

Dennis

11. CONVOY HALT AT

FOB Abad

12. DISTRO

downloading Generator

13. PFC LAYTON

14. SPC PILAT, SPC

Brown, SPC Cox, SPC Klemish, SPC Moore at the motor pool in Blessing.

15. SGT BELANGER

zeroing weapon

16. CONVOY ELEMENT

receiving brief before rolling out from Blessing.

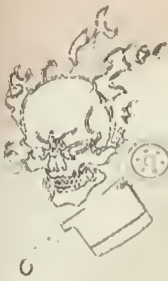
17. SPC GREEN, SPC

Avina, and SPC Wilson winning 2nd place at Basketball.

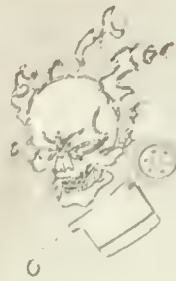
18. SPC AVINA AND SSG

Pena





FUSION





FUSION



1. UPARMORED 5 TON

PTruck

2. 1SG WHITEN

3. FLYING TO JAF

4. SSG FRIENDS' TAXI

service.

5. SPC FRUTOS, SPC

Wagner, SPC Meccum taking out the trash

6. CLP FROM JAF TO

Blessing

7. 1LT ROSARIO AND

PFC Perez.

8. PV2 BONILLA BEHIND

a .50 cal.

9. CPT THYNG

10. SPC MEREDITH AND

SPC Mecum

11. PFC VEGA, SPC

Lopez, SPC Webb, and PFC Jones - playing sing star

12. SPC LOPEZ ON AN

MRAP.

13. LT ROSARIO & 1SG

Whitten talking with local children

14. SPC MECCUM

draining oil.

15. PFC MOOMAW, SPC

Padiong, PFC Vega, SGT Belanger waiting to roll out

16. SFC LOETZ & PFC

Schmidt taking a break at the KOP.

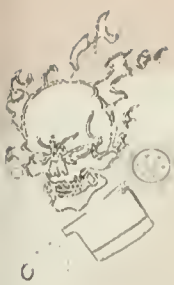
17. SPC PAYTON & PFC

Schmidt getting ready to leave from FOB Abad

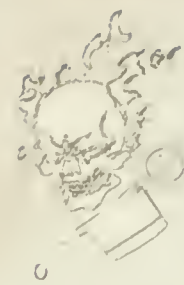
18. ASV ROLLOVER

moving up to the KOP.





FUSION





FUSION

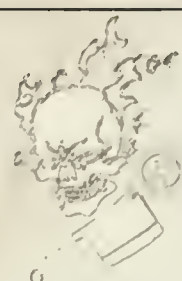


1. **SSG ADAMS, SGT**
Belanger, SSG Gonzalez, CPT
Thyng, & SFC Loetz.
2. **SPC WILSON AT THE**
KOP.
3. **SPC ANDERSON, SGT**
Dominquez, SSG Morris & SGT
Williams
4. **SSG PENA, SGT**
Gross, SPC Anderson & SFC
Pearson.
5. **PFC GREENLEE**
6. **PFC CATHEY, SPC**
Lopez, PFC Perez, & PFC
Sparrow.
7. **SPC WILSON**
8. **BULLET**
9. **UP ARMORED HUMMVEE**
10. **SPC MAYVILLE,**
SPC Duncan - Kitchen at Blessing
11. **PFC PEREZ, SPC**
Empaynado, PFC Townsend
12. **SFC NINS, SPC**
Kemish, PFC Hodgkiss
13. **SPC LOCKHART, SPC**
O'Neal, SGT Gonzales, SSG Miller
FOB Amain
14. **1LT VAN LEAR -**
Distro PL
15. **CPT THYNG, 1SG**
Whitten, SPC Handley, SGT
Moten, SGT Dominquez, SGT
Williams, SSG Morris. Front: SPC
Duncan, SPC Mayville, SPC
Anderson.
16. **SGT STURDY, SFC**
Loetz, SGT Belanger
17. **1LT ROSARIO -**
Standing in front of jingle air.
18. **PFC LAYTON**





FUSION

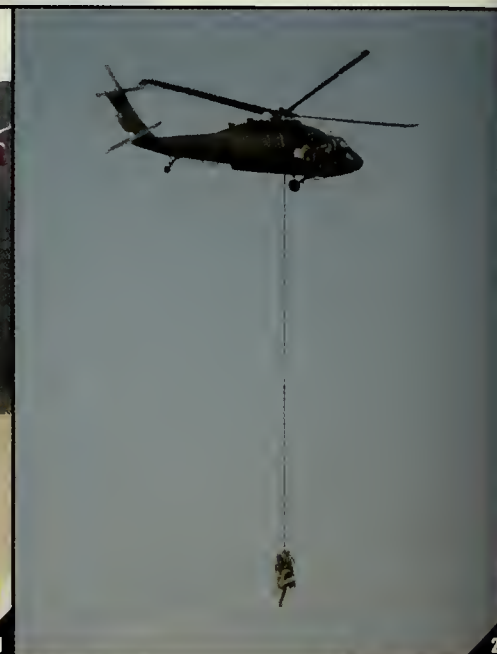


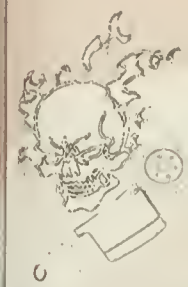


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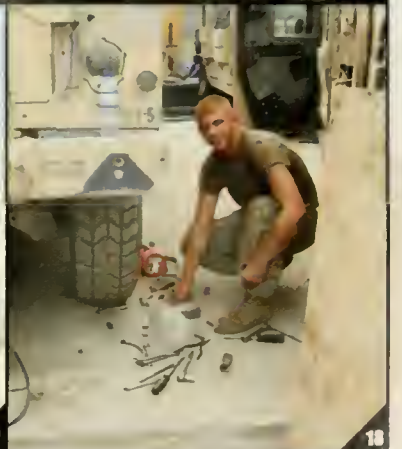
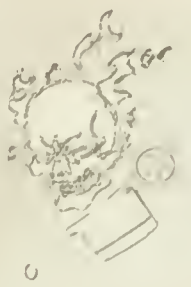


1. CPT TRYNG STANDING in JAF'S AHA after Flood.
2. UH60 CARRING H personnell
3. CONVOY ELEMENT after download at Blessing.
4. SGT RAMIREZ congradulating PFC Hodgkiss for promotion.
5. SPC DAVIS WORKING on truck
6. ABAD MOTOR POOL Crew; SGT Rosario, SPC Breeland, SPC Ramreiz, and SSG Saldarini.
7. SFC LOETZ AND 1LT Rosario
8. PFC FROTOS, SPC Wagner
9. CH47 CONDUCTING sling load operation
10. PFC SPARROW park for security halt.
11. PFC LAYTON, LT Rosario and Medic SPC Inman, PFC Perez
12. HEADLINE HERE
Place caption text here. Place caption for photo
13. FUSION 6 CREW
14. LT ROSARIO giving convoy brief
15. SFC LOETZ congradulating SFC Hodgkiss
16. FUSION 7 GOING up to the KOP.
17. SPC MADISON BHC Brigade Maintenance.
18. PFC LOCKHART looking through tools.





FUSION



REAR DETACHMENT



**COMPANY COMMANDER
CPT MATTHEW HEIMERLE**



**COMPANY FIRST SERGEANT
1SG PATRICK FATUESI**



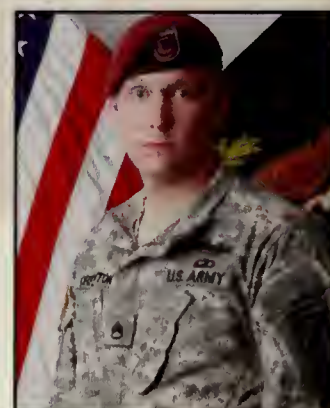
**SFC DAIWIN JADAN
HHC NCOIC**



**SGT CLAYTON GRIGSBY
ABLE CO. NCOIC**



**SSG ANDY SHORT
BATTLE CO NCOIC**



**SSG PHILLIP CRIEIGHTON
CHOSEN CO. NCOIC**



**SSG JARED COLEMAN
DESTINED CO. NCOIC**



**SPC FRANK PECSEK
DESTINED CO NCOIC**



**SSG CHARLES AUSTION
FUSION CO. NCOIC**



**MRS. CRISTIN PIKE
FRSA**

"THE ROCK"

FAMILY READINESS GROUPS



ROCK KIDS DAY MAY 2008



SPC PECSEK AT ROCK KIDS DAY



AFTER THE JUMP TOWER!



REAR D NCOIC'S



CAMOFLAUGE STATION



GRENADE STATION AT KIDS DAY



GETTING READY FOR ROCK KIDS DAY!



THE FIRST JUMPER!



SSG COLEMAN

"THE ROCK"

FAMILY READINESS GROUPS



PRE JUMP TRAINING



FRG LEADERS AND SENIOR ADVISORS SUMMER 2007



HOOAH DAY PT TEST



PT RUN 1ST AND 2ND PLACE



PARACHUTE LANDING FALL TRAINING



RESTING AFTER A LONG DAY



BREAKFAST AT THE DFAC



SIT-UPS



HALF WAY BASH!



HOOAH DAY PT TEST



SIMS



MARKSMANSHIP TRAINING



ASSEMBLY/DISASSEMBLY OF M4

“THE ROCK” FAMILY READINESS GROUPS



ROCK HOOAH DAY 2007 - AT THE END OF THE DAY



SANTA AND ELFS AT CHRISTMAS



BRING IT ON!



CHIRSTMAS PARTY 2007



STOCKING PROJECT FOR CHRISTMAS



SIT-UPS WITH 1SG



ROCK HOOAH DAY 2007 - BEFORE THE PT TEST



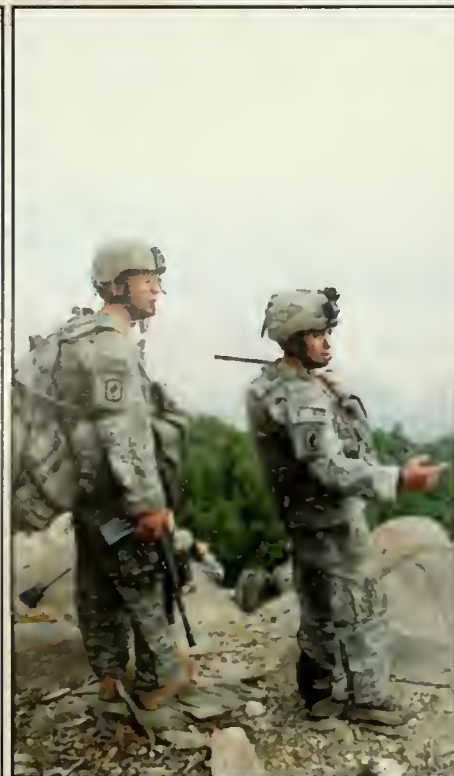
READY TO JUMP!



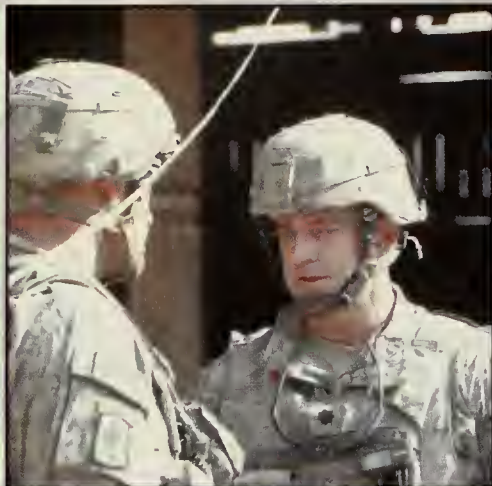
HIGH CRAWL

- TAMING THE KUNAR -





- TAMING THE KUNAR -







I.E. MacLennan
2008

LEAVING AFGHANISTAN

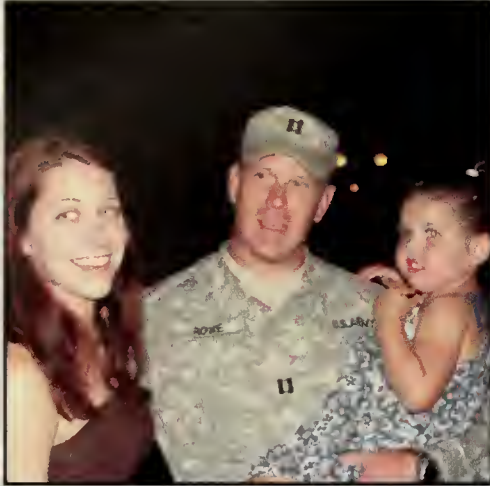


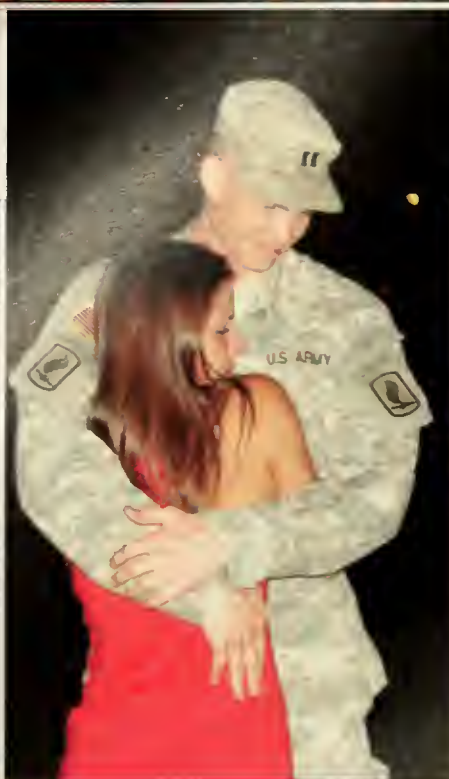
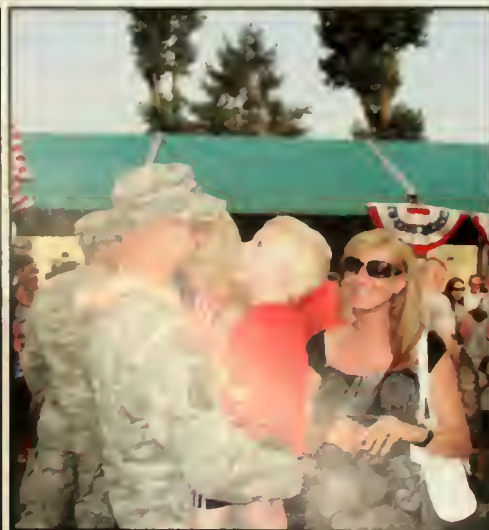
"THE ROCK" RETURNS





"THE ROCK" RETURNS





VALOR AWARDS

APPROVED

SILVER STAR -

1LT GREGORY E. AMBROSIA
SPC JASON A. BALDWIN
SGT MATTHEW COULTER
1LT WILLIAM CROMIE
1LT MATTHEW C. FERRARA
SSG ERICK GALLARDO
SSG ROBERT SMITH

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS -

SSG ERICH PHILLIPS

PENDING

MEDAL OF HONOR -

SPC KYLE WHITE
SPC SALVATORE GIUNTA

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS -

SSG LINCOLN DOCKERY
SGT RYAN PITTS
SSG JAMES TAKES

SILVER STAR -

SSG CONRAD BEGAYE
PFC MARC SOLOWSKI
SSG SEAN SAMAROO
CPT MATTHEW MYER
PFC JOHN HAYES
SPC JEFFERY SCANTLIN
SSG ERICH PHILLIPS

REMEMBERING THE FALLEN

“The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotion, spends himself in a worthy cause; who at best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement; and who at worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who have never tasted victory or defeat.”

- THEODORE ROOSEVELT

PFC TIMOTHY R. VIMOTO
02 AUGUST 1987 – 06 JUNE 2007



BATTLE COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

PFC CHRISTOPHER S. HONAKER
25 SEPTEMBER 1983 – 05 JULY 2007



ABLE COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

PFC JOSEPH A. MIRACLE
06 NOVEMBER 1984 – 05 JULY 2007



ABLE COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

PFC JUAN S. RESTREPO
07 OCTOBER 1986 – 22 JULY 2007



BATTLE COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

1LT BENJAMIN J. HALL
28 DECEMBER 1982 – 31 JULY 2007



DESTINED COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

SFC MATTHEW D. BLASKOWSKI
05 MARCH 1980– 23 SEPTEMBER 2007



BATTLE COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

SSG LARRY I. ROUGLE
06 MAY 1982 – 23 OCTOBER 2007



HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

SGT JOSHUA C. BRENNAN
30 MAY 1985 – 25 OCTOBER 2007



BATTLE COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

SPC HUGO V. MENDOZA
23 MARCH 1978 – 25 OCTOBER 2007



BATTLE COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

CPT MATTHEW C. FERRARA
14 OCTOBER 1983 – 9 NOVEMBER 2007



CHOSEN COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

SGT JEFFREY S. MERSMAN
11 MAY 1984 – 09 NOVEMBER 2007



CHOSEN COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

CPL SEAN K. LANGEVIN
17 AUGUST 1984 – 09 NOVEMBER 2007



CHOSEN COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

CPL LESTER G. ROQUE
04 DECEMBER 1983 – 09 NOVEMBER 2007



CHOSEN COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

SPC JOSEPH M. LANCOUR
26 JUNE 1986 – 09 NOVEMBER 2007



CHOSEN COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

SFC MATTHEW R. KAHLER
24 JULY 1978 – 26 JANUARY 2008



CHOSEN COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

1LT JONATHAN P. BROSTROM
22 AUGUST 1983 – 13 JULY 2008



CHOSEN COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

SGT ISRAEL GARCIA
19 JANUARY 1984 – 13 JULY 2008



CHOSEN COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

CPL JONATHAN R. AYERS
4 MAY 1984 – 13 JULY 2008



CHOSEN COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

CPL JASON M. BOGAR
19 FEBRUARY 1983 – 13 JULY 2008



CHOSEN COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

CPL JASON D. HOVATER
10 AUGUST 1983 – 13 JULY 2008



CHOSEN COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

CPL MATTHEW B. PHILLIPS
13 APRIL 1981 – 13 JULY 2008



CHOSEN COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

CPL PRUITT A. RAINEY
21 FEBRUARY 1986 – 13 JULY 2008



CHOSEN COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

CPL GUNNER W. ZWILLING
29 APRIL 1988 – 13 JULY 2008



CHOSEN COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

SPC SERGIO S. ABAD
15 MARCH 1987 – 13 JULY 2008



CHOSEN COMPANY
2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 503D INFANTRY
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

Second Battalion (Airborne), 503rd Infantry History

The 503rd Infantry was one of the original Parachute Infantry units created as a result of successful efforts by the US Army Airborne Test Platoon at Fort Benning, Georgia in 1940. It was the third of four Parachute Battalions formed prior to the beginning of World War II. From a company-sized unit originally activated on August 22, 1941, the 503rd was expanded into a full-sized Regiment on March 2, 1942. The first commanding officer of the Regiment was Major General William M. Miley, then a Lieutenant Colonel. Lieutenant Colonel Edson D. Raff, then the Regiment's executive officer, became the first battalion commander of the 2nd Battalion, 503rd, which was formed from the 504th PIR in March 1942.

After its activation, 2-503 moved to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where it trained until June of 1942 when it was sent to the United Kingdom in preparation for the airborne operation in North Africa. On November 8, 1942 the 2nd Battalion, 503rd Parachute Infantry conducted the first combat jump in US history; when 39 C47 aircraft, enroute from Lands End, England, dropped the battalion onto a drop zone near Lourmel, Algeria. This action initiated the North Africa campaign against the French. Five days later, November 15, 1942, three hundred paratroopers jumped onto an open area near Youks les Bains on the Tunisia- Algeria border. The ensuing thrust east to cut off the Germans lines of communications in Gafsa, Tunisia included a third airborne drop of 30 paratroopers and heavy equipment onto El Djem in December 1942 with a mission to destroy an enemy railroad bridge. Of the 30 paratroopers to descend on the objective that fateful day in December 1942 only six returned to friendly lines.

There were numerous recorded heroic actions by the paratroopers of the 2-503 PIR in North Africa, most notably was one of the first fallen paratroopers of World War II, Private John Thomas MacKall for whom Camp MacKall, North Carolina is named.

Unbeknownst to the Rock Battalion, the 2-503 PIR was redesignated the 509th Parachute Infantry during the North African Campaign but was not informed of such until after the war.

All the while, the remaining elements of the 503rd Regimental Headquarters and other subordinate elements left the states for the Pacific Theater on October 20, 1942. After conducting a cross-country rail movement, the Regiment left the port of San Francisco on the MS Poelau Laut. During the movement west the 501st Parachute Battalion, which embarked in the Panama Canal Zone, was redesignated as the 2nd Battalion, 503rd Parachute Infantry Regiment. This redesignation occurred about the same time its twin sister the 2-503 PIR was conducting a combat jump in North Africa against the Vichy French.

The newly formed 2-503 remained at sea for forty-two days and landing at Cairnz, Australia where it trained for combat in a training camp 18 miles inland as part of the Regiment. Later, the Regiment was expanded into Combat Team with assignment of the 462d Parachute Artillery Battalion, and the 161st Parachute Engineer Company on 13 September 1944.

During its more than three years service in the Southwest Pacific Theater, the 503d served in five major combat operations.

1. In July of 1943, the 503rd moved to Port Moresby, New Guinea, where it made final preparations for its first combat operation in the Pacific Theater. On September 5, 1943 the Regiment jumped into the Markham River Valley, New Guinea for Operation ALAMO; the first airborne operation conducted by US forces in the Pacific Theater. During this operation, the Regiment forced the Japanese evacuation of a major base at Lae, in which the Third Battalion of the 503rd held the rear guard of this exodus. This successful employment of airborne forces in the Markham Valley has been credited with saving the concept of vertical envelopment from being abandoned following several less than successful engagements in Europe. After two weeks of fighting, the Japanese were defeated and the 503rd reassembled at Port Moresby for the return to Australia

2. For Operation CYCLONE, 2-503 along with 1-503 conducted an airborne assault on the island of Noemfoor off the coast of Dutch New Guinea early in July 1944. In support of the 1st and 2nd Battalions airborne operation, 3-503 conducted an amphibious landing a few days later. Fighting as part of the Regiment on Noemfoor, 2-503 was responsible for destroying the Japanese garrison and enabling the construction of airfields, which played a significant role in supporting the advance of Allied troops from New Guinea to the Philippines. Sergeant Ray E. Eubanks earned the Medal of Honor, posthumously, for his actions on Noemfoor.

3. Following an unopposed landing on the Island of Leyte, in the Philippines, the 503d Parachute Regimental Combat Team made a major amphibious landing on the Island of Minoro, in the central Philippines on December 15, 1944. Originally, it was intended for the 503d to jump onto Mindoro but because of inadequate airstrip facilities on Leyte, an airborne assault was not possible. The purpose of the eventual landing was to secure sites for an airhead, thus providing forward Army Air Corps bases to support later actions. The Regiment was subject to intense enemy air attack and naval bombardment throughout this action.

4. The mid-December 1944 operation on Leyte provided the Regiment a staging area for its assault on the Philippine fortress island of Corregidor, nicknamed "The Rock," from which the Regiment would later take both its nickname and motto. At 0830 on February 16, 1945, after weeks of naval and aerial bombardment, the 503rd hit Corregidor conducting the most vicious combat action in which the Regiment was engaged during its existence to date.

The mission commenced with the combat jump on Fortress Corregidor codenamed Operation TOPSIDE. Corregidor Island was the bastion that withstood a fierce Japanese siege for nearly five months in 1941 and 1942, thereby interrupting the Japanese advance toward Australia. The 503d was proud to have been bestowed the honor of re-patriating the "The Rock".

The first jump, made in thirty-five mile per hour winds at an altitude of 550 feet, was made by the 3-503 with the 2nd Battalion following at 1240 that afternoon. Due to the high number of injuries during the first two jumps, the 1st Battalion jump was cancelled and the battalion made an amphibious assault the following day.

The surprise created by the airborne assault into the island interior and the inability of the Japanese to react to both an airborne and amphibious assault enabled the US Forces to defeat the numerically superior Japanese forces. After two weeks of vicious fighting the island was subdued, and on March 2, 1945, the third anniversary of the 503rd Infantry Regiment's activation, the island of Corregidor was formally turned over to General Douglas MacArthur.

An estimated 6,550 Japanese soldiers were on the island when the 503d jumped, and of those only 50 survived. In turn, the 503d lost 169 paratroopers killed in action. For its actions during this operation, the 503d was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation and Private Lloyd G. McCarter was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for bravery on Corregidor.

5. Almost immediately after returning to Mindoro from Corregidor, the Regiment was called upon to reinforce the 40th Infantry Division which was bogged down on the Island of Negros, in the central Philippines. The Regiment was inserted by landing craft, although it had been alerted for another combat jump. The objectives of the proposed airborne operation were a strategic bridge and a large lumber mill, but retreating Japanese forces subsequently destroyed them both. The 503d engaged in fierce battles against frantic Japanese resistance in the mountainous areas of Negros for more than five months. The 40th Infantry Division was re-directed to other operations on Mindanao, leaving the 503d to battle the Japanese alone. At the end of the war in August of 1945, over 7,500 of the surviving Japanese troops on this island surrendered to the 503d Parachute Regimental Combat Team.

Official U.S. War Department sources estimated that the 503d killed over 10,000 Japanese troops during its combat operations in the Southwest Pacific. By early November 1945, the 503d Parachute Regimental Combat Team ceased to be operational. The Regiment was inactivated on December 24, 1945 at Camp Anza, California.

Because of the Korean Conflict, 503rd Airborne Infantry was reactivated on March 2, 1951 at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and assigned to the 11th Airborne Division. The 503rd did not see combat during the Korean War, but conducted extensive exercises in all parts of the United States, including Alaska. In 1956, the 503rd moved with the 11th Airborne Division to Germany. On 1 September 1957, 2d Battalion, 503rd Infantry was redesignated as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Airborne Battle Group, 503rd Infantry and reassigned to the 82d Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Then on 26 March 1963 2d Battalion, 503rd Infantry was assigned to the 173rd Airborne Brigade, its current parent organization.

173d Airborne Brigade Lineage

The 173rd Airborne Brigade was activated on the island of Okinawa on March 26, 1963. From its beginning, it proved to be an aggressive and unique unit led by (then) Brigadier General Ellis W. Williamson who established realistic training throughout the Pacific Region. The "SKY SOLDIER," as the Nationalist Chinese paratroopers called the 173rd, made thousands of parachute jumps in a dozen different Pacific area countries.

On May 5, 1965, the 173rd Airborne Brigade became the first US Army combat unit committed to the Vietnam War. As the Pacific Command's quick-reaction strike force the 173rd was to provide security for the Bien Hoa Air Base Complex until elements of the 101st could be deployed. In the end it stayed for 6 years and 2d Battalion, 503rd Infantry played a major part in its operations. The major portion of the brigade landed at Bien Hoa Airfield and found an area that had been battered frequently by enemy raids and shelling attacks.

In the combat operations to follow after their arrival, the paratroopers made their superb training payoff. They were the first to go into War Zone D to destroy enemy base camps where they were the first introduced the use of small, long-range patrols. They fought the battles of the Iron Triangle, conducted the only major combat parachute jump in the Tay Ninh area, and blocked NVA incursions during some of the bloodiest fighting of the war at Dak To during the summer and fall of 1967, culminating in the capture of Hill 875.

On February 22, 1967, paratroopers of the 2d Battalion, 503d Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigade, parachuted into a wide clearing in the jungle of War Zone C as part of Operation JUNCTION CITY. 2-503 conducted the only major US Airborne operation of the war while attached to the 1st Infantry Division carrying out the first major US Airborne assault since the Korean War. Their mission was to form a blocking force near the crossroads hamlet of Kantum, South Vietnam, to support a large-scale cordon and search by U.S. forces. The 780-man airborne task force was delivered in two sorties of aircraft from Bien Hoa Airbase. The personnel drop of sixteen C-130 Hercules aircraft arrived over Drop Zone Charlie at 0900. General Jack Deane, Commander of the 173rd Airborne Brigade, Lieutenant Colonel Robert Sigholtz, Commander of the 2-503d Task Force, and Command Sergeant Major Harold Proffitt led the jump from the first aircraft.

A total of 780 troopers hit the silk in two passes over the small drop zone, settled to the earth, and began assembling without any enemy opposition. Thirty minutes later, ten heavy drop C-130s arrived and dropped six 105mm howitzers, four 4.2 inch mortars, six 81mm mortars, four 3/4-ton trucks, five jeeps, six M274 "Mule" vehicles, one trailer, and 3900 rounds of artillery and mortar ammunition. By 1000 all men and equipment were deployed into blocking positions and the command post and artillery firebase were established.

As units from the U.S. 1st and 25th Infantry Divisions, the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, and the 173d Airborne Brigade began closing the horseshoe around suspected Vietcong and North Vietnamese Army (NVA) positions, Operation JUNCTION CITY became a series of small unit firefights for the paratroopers. On February 28th, the "Sky Soldiers" of the 173rd overran the Vietcong Central Information Office, a key enemy propaganda facility. As the multi-divisional attack continued through mid-May, major battles raged around the horseshoe with three Vietcong Regiments and one Regiment of NVA regulars. Operation JUNCTION CITY succeeded in driving major enemy forces from War Zone C across the border into sanctuaries in Cambodia. The operation was terminated on May 14, 1967.

On November 1-6, 1968, the 173rd Airborne Brigade deployed to DAK TO in the central highlands with the mission of conducting search-and-destroy operations in conjunction with other US forces in Operation MACARTHUR that included the infamous Battle for DAK TO. The final major and most decisive action of the Battle for DAK TO was initiated on November 19th when the 2nd Battalion engaged elements of the 174th North Vietnamese Infantry Regiment on Hill 875. Joined by the 4th Battalion during the engagement, the 173rd fought for 96 grueling hours resulting in 298 enemy combatants killed thus rendering the 174th North Vietnamese Infantry Regiment combat ineffective. The 173rd Airborne Brigade would later be awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for its valorous actions during the Battle of DAK TO.

The troopers of the 173rd Airborne Brigade (Sep) wear their combat badges and decorations with pride. During more than six years of nearly continuous combat, the brigade earned 14 campaign streamers and four unit citations. 13 Medal of Honor winners, over 6,000 Purple Hearts, the only Combat Parachute Assault of the War, and sadly, over 1700 names of Sky Soldiers on **THE WALL**. The Brigade and the 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry was deactivated on January 14, 1972 at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky.

On December 16, 2001 the 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 503rd Infantry was assigned to the 173rd Airborne Brigade and reactivated on January 25, 2002 in Vicenza Italy. Less than one year from its activation and less than a month after the activation of its final rifle company, "THE ROCK" deployed to Operation RAPID GUARDIAN 3-01 in Kosovo; the first of two back-to-back operational deployments. On 26 March 2003, the Battalion conducted a night combat parachute assault into Bashur, Iraq; exactly 40 years after its initial assignment to the 173rd Airborne Brigade; it once again wrote a chapter in a nations history.

During Operation Iraqi Freedom, The ROCK seized the airfield as part of the brigade allowing the coalition to open the northern front. On April 10, 2003, the ROCK attacked south to seize the City of Kirkuk. After seizing a series of objectives (LEE, HANCOCK, MCCLELLEN, and CHAMBERLAIN), the battalion established 12 operating bases in the city. From 10 April 2003 until 19 February 2004 the ROCK conducted daily security patrols, countless raids against Fadayeen and Baath party pockets of resistance, and established numerous civil projects in order to demilitarize the city. These projects included establishing a police force and fostering normalcy within the community. On June 9, 2003 the battalion was attached to the 3rd Combat Team, 4th Infantry division during Operation Peninsula Strike where it conducted a series of raids in the central Iraqi city of Al Dulu Yah. Upon returning to Kirkuk on June 13, the battalion continued to conduct combat patrols, raids against anti-coalition forces, and out of sector attacks to places like Halabjah, Haweja, Tuz, Taza, and the Zaab. In February 2004, after 11 months of combat operations the ROCK began its redeployment to Italy having left behind a functional police force and a stable environment in the city of Kirkuk.

On 27 March 2005, the ROCK deployed to Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan to take control of the Zabol Province during Operation ENDURING FREEDOM VI. During its 12 month deployment the ROCK conducted 1889 patrols, 395 major operations, killed or wounded 272 enemy combatants, and detained an additional 169 freedom fighters. Its actions greatly increased the security and functionality of the Zabol province and the entire Regional Command. Upon leaving Afghanistan TF ROCK had accomplished numerous things, such as constructing a road which connected remote villages to Qalat city, building bridges in order to accommodate vehicular traffic, removing multiple ACM cells, conducting countless VMO's, and civil assistance operations. The ROCK's actions in Afghanistan were nothing short of detrimental to the stability of its area of responsibility. On 28 March 2006, the ROCK returned to Vicenza, Italy after yet another successful combat deployment.

Today the ROCK stands ready to accomplish any mission with the esprit and élan that it has demonstrated in the past.

503rd RECIPIENTS OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR

SGT Larry S. Pierce
20 September 65

PFC Milton L. Olive (B/2-503)
22 October 65

Sp5/SFC Lawrence Joel
8 November 65

Sp4 Alfred Rascon
16 March 66

SGT/CSM Charles B. Morris (A/2-503)
29 June 66

SP4 Don L. Michael
8 April 67

PFC John A. Barnes III
12 November 67

MAJ (Chaplain) Charles J. Watters
19 November 67

PFC Carlos J. Lozada (A/2-503)
20 November 67

SSG Laszlo Rabel
13 November 68

CPL Terry T. Kawamura
20 March 69

SP4 Michael R. Blanchfield
3 July 69

SSG Glenn H. English, JR.
7 September 70

**“GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN TO LAY
DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS BROTHER”**

JOHN 15:13











